

THE
Famous, pleasant,

and variable Historie,

165000 of Palladine of
England.

Discoursing of honorable Aduentures,
of Knightly deedes of Armes and Chivalrie:
*enterlaced likewise with the love of sundrie noble
personages, as time and affection limi-
ted their desires.*
(::)

Heerein is no offence offered to the wise by wanton
speeches, or encouragement to the loose by
lasciuious matter.

Translated out of French by A. M. one of the messengers
of her Maiesties Chamber.

Tutere Patere aut abstine.

AT LONDON,

Printed by Edward Allde for John Perin, dwelling
in Pankes Churchyard at the signe of the Angel.
And are there to be sold.

1588.

1654
1588
— 66





TO THE RIGHT
Honorable, Robert Deuorax, Earle
of Essex, and Ewe: Viscount of Hereford and
Bourchier: Lord Ferrers of Chartley, Bourchier
and *Louayne: Maister of the Queenes*
Majesties Honrle: A. M.
Wisheth increase of all
happinesse.



*A*mong those (right Ho-
norable) that offered incense in the
Temple of Iupiter, in plates of Golde ac-
cording to the custome, a simple Heards-
man religiously affected, brought his of-
fering on a broken potsherd: for which
he being reprooved by Jupiters Priest,
boldly returned this answer. The
Gods that dispose all, knowe all, rich men are discerned by their
great gifts, and poore men by their simple, yet happily their zeale
is not alike: for rather had I be thought unmannerly by this
homely present, then vndutifull by want of better abilitie.

In like manner, right noble Lord, among those ripe and cu-
rious wittes, that offer to your learned view matter of valew squa-
red and leueld by deepe knowledge and experience: a simple zea-
lous man, more deuoted in affection to your honors welfare, then
able to expresse the same as other can, presents this rude and im-
pullished peece of worke, not handled with arte, because I want
it, nor glozed with borrowed phrases, because I am loth to be-
come indebtred: but equall with the poore Heardsmans potsherd,
and with him chusing rather to be thought homely, then vndutifull.

The Epistle.

full, knowing that the Eagles eyes of Iupiter, can search into the substance of the one and other.

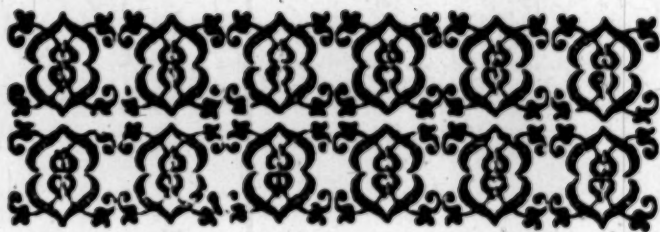
This Woorke of Palladine, with all his imperfections, I humbly commit to your honorable protection: knowing, that in respect of your owne loue to Chinabrie, you will thinke well of him, and because he is an Englishman, in the better sort fauour him.

For my selfe, as I neuer knew honor partiall in opinion, but

With upright iudgement to ballance each mans deserving: so in this assurance, with reuerence,

I end, as forward as any in affection
to your Honor.

A. Mondry.



To



To the corteous and freendly
Readers.

MY promise was, that
by Easter Tearme this worke
should be published, and according to my promise, heere doo
I send it: not doubting but you
will so fauourably censure thereon, as my paynes, and the pleasure of the Historie deserueth. If you happen to
synde any mislike in the translation, or that it is not
so currant English as syne eares hunt after: let this
serue as a sufficient excuse for mee, that in translating, men are bound to their Writers words, and
such as roue at random, may set downe what they
please.

And this I am to intreate on the Printers behalfe, and mine owne, whereas in dyuers places
there are faultes escaped, as woordes verie much mistaken, many left out, and others common: that
you will freendly let passe such ouer-sightes, and
at the next Impression they shall bee amended; for
I beeyng often absent, and the Printer carefull to
end

To the freendly Readers.

end his worke by appoynted time, haue beene the
cause of all these escapes. Thus committing my
Booke and my selfe to your fauourable
iudgement, I ceasse. From my house
without Cripple-gate this 23.
of Aprill.

Yours to bee commaunded,
Anthony Monckey.



THE
Famous, pleasant,
and variable Historie
of *Palladine*.

Discourſing of Knightly and woorthy deedes of
Armes: and unfolding the loue of many great Princes
and Lords, but eſpecially of *PALLADINE*,
Soene to the King Milanor of England,
and the faire Selerina, ſiſter to the
King of Portugall, &c.

CHAP. I.

* Of the birth of Prince *PALLADINE*, and the
ſtrange aduenture that happened on the day of his
birth, in the Citie of *London*, before the Pallace of
King *Milanor*.



At what time the puiſ-
ſant and ſpacious Empire of *Greece*
and moſt fertile *Aſia*, was held in
ſubiection by the great *Turke*, and
the *Romaine* Monarchy was com-
manded by the wiſe Emperour
Juſtinian, Gouernour of both high
and nether *Almayne*: raigned in
great *Britayne*, now called *England*, a King named
A. J. *Milanor,*

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Milanor, who from his yonth was so well instructed in good letters, and the Sciences liberrall, as among the most learned Doctors he was reckned percellesse, befoze he came to the age of eightene yeres. During this time of his education, his Governours to make him perfect in all things becoming so great a Prince, caused him to practise the managing of great Voyles, to use the Tilt and Tourney, with all other scates of agilitie incident to Armes: where in right soon he grew so prompt and excellent, as all the Lords and Subiects of his Realme were not onely abashed at his forwardnes, but thought themselves especially blessed, to live vnder the regiment of so brave a King. Soe was this ioy alone to them, but many other nations and forreigne Princes did participate therein, especially the Kings of Scottes and Norgalles his neighbours, who hearing of the great bountie, prowess, magnanimitie, and other laudable vertues in this King, determined to be friends to him and his, holding this opinion, that being confederate with *England* in love, no other King or Prince durst molest them with warres. Upon this consideration, they sent their Ambassadors to his Paierlie, to promise and sweare peace, amitie, and inviolable concord, with obepsance, and acknowledging him their Superiour, where they were receiued honourably, and with content, a matter greatly availing them afterward, as you shall perceiue by the following discourse of our Historie.

The King of *Portugall* understanding the manifold vertues, and power of King Milanor, as also that so many Kings and Princes desired his friendly alliance, prevailed so well by his sundry Ambassadors, as the King of *England* married with his sister named Selerina. faire in perfections, young and gracious among all the Ladies in her time, and to continue holy love betwixt this King and *Spainne*, some after she was conceived with a goodly childe, at whose birth happened such a marvelous adventure, as no registered memorie receiues the like.

of Palladine of England. 2

At what time the Quene was in trauaile, suddenly was the Citie of London couered with a darke and fearefull Clowde, the heauens deliuering such thunder and lightning, the earth likewise shaking and trembling so straungely, as the Citizens expected death euery moment, imagining the end of the world was come vpon them. For the space of two houres this wonderfull tempest endured, untill the Quene was deliuered of her burthen, when the Clowde began to vanish away, and the heauens looked fayre and cheerefull as before. After this despairing storme, the people who with feare and terror of the thunder, had hid themselves in vaultes and caues, amazed and fearefull, began to shew themselves: but when the Gentlemen in the Kings Pallace came to open the windows, they beheld in the great waste place before the Court, three statues of Copper, each one about eight fote in height, and by each of them shode a Collonne of blake marble, on the topmost wherof, hanged a shield of fine and pure Steele, right curiously ingrauen and polished, and enriched with many precious stones and Jewels: in briefe, such was the workmanship and deuise thereof, as neyther sword, lance, or bullet from an Harquebuse, could any way pierce or enter it. Above this shield on the same pillar, was engrauen these verses in faire graine letters, whereto the statue pointed with one of his fingers.

*Pallas the wise Goddesse, whose skill thus framed me,
Orland I must be giuen, vnto the cheefe in chiuallrie.*

The second statue shewed on his Piller, the God of loue Cupid, being framed of iuallie Orientall Pearle, holding a golden bowe in his hand, and his arrowes in a quiver of golde by his side, vnder his fete on the Piller was engrauen these verses in Roman letters.

*No one so stout or affable, can take me from this place,
Except in loyaltie of loue, all other he surpasse.*

The third statue, made in forme of a goddesse, bearded.

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full woman, she stood on the Colonne standing by her, the Image of the Goddess Venus, in white Alabaſter, ha- uing on her head a Crowne of Golde, embelliſhed with many Rubies, Diamonds, Emeraulds, and other preci- ous Stones of great value. This Image of Venus held in her left hand a flaming firebrand, and pointed with her right hand to the Crowne. Under her ſcote hung a Table, wherein was written two French verſes, thus Engliſhed.

*This Crowne is for the Ladie framd,
That chiefe in beautie ſhall be namd.*

The two firſt Statues ſeemed like two fierce and ſtrong Savage men, each of them hauing a great ſauchion hang- ing in ſcarffes by their ſides, and in ſuch ſort were they charmed, as whoſoeuer made offer to take the Crowne, or touch the God of Loue, was immediatly aſſailed by one of the men, who would not giue over till he had vanqui- ſhed him. Many Knightes of England, and other Coun- treys, aduentured their fortunes at theſe Statues, but were ſtill repulſed, untill the Knight came that conquered theſe monſtrous men, as hereafter in the Hiſtorie ſhall be declared.

In like manner, at the Image of Venus, the Ladies profered to take away her Crowne, but the Statue ſtan- ding by, repulſed them continually, ſo that they which once had aſſayed, durſt meddle no more: wherefore, the Crowne remayned unconquered, untill the Lady came that ſurpaſſed all other in beauty, to whom the honoꝝ of the Crowne was giued.

After they had long beheld and conſidered this aduen- ture ſo admirable, and vnable to coniecture the meaning thereof, diuers went to aduertise the King of this ac- cident, who was no leſſe abaſhed hereat then the other were, eſpecially the Duane, whoſe feare was not a little, hearing the terrible thunder and tempeſt that happened, by which occaſion ſhe had more ſpeedie deliuerance then was

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was expected, and with greater ease, then commonly women haue: yet was the child in such goodly shape, resembling his father, as the Mother was highly pleased therewith, hoping this Infant would remaine an inuiolable league of loue betwene the King and her, and the rather, the intelligence of this new spectacle animated her therewith.

The King giuing little credite to this strange report, went in person with all the Princes and Lords of his Court to behold the same, and seeing that it was true indeede, confessing likewise the thing in strangenesse to surpass the memorie of all former aduentures: he sent immediately for the most skilfull Philosophers in his Realm, who hauing learnedly considered thereof, assured the King, that at the instant appearing of those rare spectacles, a Child should be borne, that in bountie, prowesse and loyalty, should excorde all the knightes in the world: for whose renoune, a wise Pigromancer had appointed that occasion, that each curious eye might discerne his rare vertues, among all that should aduenture for the Shield and Trophe of Cupid. For can we iudge my Lord, sayd these wise men, that the same is reserued for any other, then your new borne Sonne, at whose houre of birth, the Statues appeared, or (at leaste) some other that shall issue from him: for our iudgemente in his Astracisme doth perswade vs, that he shall be valiant and renowned in feates of Armes, and in loyalty was neuer man found his second.

As for the Image of Venus, that beareth the rich Crowne, we gesse (my Lord) it is meant to some Daughter you shall haue hereafter, who in beautie and gracious nature, shall excorde all of her time. If it like your Maestie, to make experience of what we haue sayd, you must send for all the fairest Ladies in your Realme, and permit them to trie their vertue, in taking the Crowne from the head of the Image, in which attempt, you shall receiue

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occasion of exceeding pleasure : for the brasse statue which you behold standing by it, will repulse the Ladies in such sort, as they shall repent their bold aduerture.

The King very ioyfull to heare these newes, said : By the faith of a Prince, I will cause proofe to be made hereof within these few dayes, and first, the Ladies of our Citie of London shall begin, if they cannot speede in their attempt, the Ladies through our Realme shall be aduertised thereof, as also they of Scotland and Norwilles, which haue commendation beyond other Nations for beautie. In the meane while I will go conferre with the Queene hereon, who (as I thinke) will not be a little glad, to heare that such good fortune is reserued for our yong Sonne. As he was about to depart thence, he beheld the inscriptions engrauen on the Pillers, which causing to be read, and vnderstanding the effect of them all thre : In sooth (quoth he) I will for the loue of Pallas, who framed this faire shield, that my Sonne at his Chyistening shall be named Palladine, which came so to passe, as you shall reade hereafter.

CHAP. II.

¶ How the King *Milano* recounted the meruaile of the three Statues to the Queene, and of the great Triumphs was made at the Baptizing of the yong Prince, who was named *Palladine*.

The King hauing aduisedly considered this strange accident, and vnderstood to what end it was appointed, went very ioyfully to the Quenes Chamber, and there to her rehearsed what the wise men had said, which newes were so welcome to her, as nothing could be more. It now becometh vs *Spadame* (quoth he) to forthinke on the

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the Baptizing of our Sonne, who shall be his Sureties in that holy Sacrament, to which I can request no fitter persons, then our friendly brethren and neighbors, the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles*, so please you Madams to ioyne with me in opinion. The Queene was so well contented with this motion, as Ambassadors were immediately dispatched, who so well executed the trust committed to their charge, as the Kings reputed themselves highly honored by this request, and all things are now preparing for the Baptisme of this noble yong Prince. At the arriual of these two Kings, great ioyes and triumphs were made by the Citizens of *London*, and as concerning their entertainment at the Court, you must thinke it was according to their high estates, withall, that Englishmen are not to learne to welcome Strangers.

When the day was come that the yong Prince should be Christened, as the King his father had requested, he was named Palladine: and afterward, to honor the tunc and the royall companie, there wanted no worthy deuises, with exquisite Chivalrie perfourmed both at the Tilt and Tourney, wherein the King of *Scots* bare great estimation, being a yong Prince, aged sixe and twenty yeres, and one, that in knightly exercises carried especiall account. Yet was not this ioy alone in the Court, but in *London* likewise the Citizens shewed the like, where the Conduits ranne diuers sorts of Talines, the Streets were strowed with Tables before the doores, and all kinde of good things placed thereon, with such ringing of Belles, and making Bonfires, as neuer was the like sene before that time. It werc too long a matter to rehearse, what braue Theatres were created, and therein presented most excellent Comedies, with Maskes, Pommeries, and all kinde of delightfull inuentions, during the time of this Feast, which continued fiftene dayes together. It shall suffice me to tell you, how the King Milanor hearing that the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles* would now returne home againe,
was

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was desirous to haue the aduenture tried of the three Statues befoze they went, and therefore caused to be proclaimed by sounde of Trompet, through all the strates in *London*, that all knights and Gentlemen should on the morrow come to the Pallace, to aduenture their fortune for the rich Sheld, and the God Cupid, so that if any one could take them from the Statues, with right god will they should enioy them. The like protestation was made of the Image of Venus, and the rich Crowne, which was destenied to the most accomplished Lady in beautie, the same whereof, called faire beauties darlings to the Court on heapes, each one thinking to beare away the Crowne, by the benefite of her amiable lokes. Wherefoze, the place and houre being appointed, God knowes how they laboured to augment their naturall beautie by artificiall meanes, as oymments, distilled waters, perfumes, and other like extraordinarie matters, which many Gentlewomen (who haue any naturall imperfection) at this day vse to make them seeme more amiable.

But now is the day come to make triall of the aduenture, when the King Milanor, with the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles*, and all the Ladies of the Court, went to the boyde place befoze the Pallace, and there on a faire Shafolde couered with rich Tapistrie, sate downe to take view of the valiant knightes, who durst presume to take the Sheld from the Piller. So soner were they placed as be-seemed their estates, but twelue English knightes, esteemed of greatest courage and valour in the Countrey, presented themselves (well armed) to trie their fortune.

After they had done reuerence to the Kings and Estates present, he that imagined himselfe of highest resolution among them, stept vp on foure of the staires befoze the Piller, thinking to reach the Sheld that hung thereon, but the enchanted Image drawing his fauchion, with such furious strokes repulsed him downe againe, as he durst not presume to meddle any moze, to the no little maruaile of the

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the King and his companie, who were not wont to behold such vncomly spectacles.

Next, came a gallant yong Knight, well prouided with a Rounde Target, and a short arming Sword, and with marvellous valour, he ranne vp the steps before the Colonne, and attained to the highest step of all, but he went downe againe sooner then he expected, for the Image threw him so violently backe againe, as he tumbled headlong downe the staires to the ground. Like fortune fell to the rest of the twelue, some shewing greater magnanimitie in fight then other did, yet their foile was alike, and this Shield of hono^r could not be wonne by any of them.

Then came the Quene to the Scaffold, where the Kings sate, and vnderstanding how the Knightes had sped in this first Aduenture, she sayd. Strange is it (my good Lords) that no one of our Knightes can preuaile, let the Gentlemen proue the aduenture of the second Statue; whereon the God of loue sheweth himselfe, which must be conquered by none (as I heare) but by the most loyall Knight in the world, by this meane shall we know them that haue best deserved toward their Ladies, and who excelleth all other in constancie. Madam, answered the King Milanor, We thinke your counsell verie necessarie, for long will this Shield hang here, if no other Knightes then of our Realme come to trie their fortune: such therefore as hold best opinion of their owne loialtie, make triall of your vertue at the God of Loue, and for libertie we graunt to all strange Knightes, as to them of our Realme, which our Herald shall signifie for their better assurance.

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CHAP. III.

¶ How many Knightes and Gentlemen of *England, Scotland, and Norwalles*, aduentured to winne the Image of Cupid, destenied to the most loyall, and how they were all repulsed: and the Ladies likewise in their triall for the rich Crowne.



¶ When the Herald had publikely delivered his charge, the King commaunded all the Knightes to bearme themselves, for loyaltie (quoth he) is not to be discovered by armes, but by the hidden vertue & thought, consisting in the hart of a man. My Lord, sayd the Quene, had you not assured me to whome this aduventure is referred, I would haue intreated your Pairetie to make the first triall. Then Madame, quoth the King, you haue some suspition of my loyaltie. Not so my Lord, sayd she, for nothing is lesse in my thought, and so certaine persuasion do I hold thereof, as I feare not that all present should behold your vertue, to the greater enlarging of your honoꝝ and mine owne.

¶ While these speeches passed, a yong English Gentleman came to mount the steps, that enuironed the Colonne whereon the God of Loue stode, but as he lifted his fote to the nethermost step, the Statue tumbled him backe, with his heeles upward, so that euery one laughed hartely thereat. In soth my friend, said the King, verie little loyaltie remaines in you, whome loue cannot abyde the sight of, if your Lady be in this company, good occasion hath she to get her a better seruant.

¶ Then came another, who had many times invocated on the name and fauour of his Mistresse, and he without
any

of Iſalladin an. glan

any impeachment mounted on the third ſtep, making an offer to attaine the fourth, but the Statue thruſt him downe againe, whereby he might perceiue his owne inſufficiencie, *Beloue me*, quoth the Duene, he hath done much better than the other, and the Lady he loueth, is greatly beholding to him, for iuſtly may he be accounted loyall, in that the Image ſuffered him to aſcend ſo high.

Then one of the King of *Norgalles* Knightes came to trie his fortune, whom the Statue repulſed with ſuch ſhame, as all the day after he would not be ſene, I promiſe ye Gentleman, ſaid the King his maiſter, you might haue ſpared the labour in coming ſo farre, to returne home with ſo ſhale a rebuke, and little worde had ye to ſhew vs your great inconſtancie, brother quoth the King of *Scots*, be not offended with him, for well he knowes, that his Miſtreſſe is not in this companie. You ſay true brother, answered the King of *Norgalles*, but if I knew her, I would aduertise her of his exceſſing vertue.

Here comes another of my Knightes to make a better profe, and yet perhaps, will amend his fellows diſhonour. The Knight attained the higheſt ſtep, without any diſturbance, and as he liſted his hand to take the Image of Cupid, the Statue took him by the arme, and ſet him on the ground againe, I ſee then, ſaid the King of *Norgalles*, each one muſt here be iudged according to the greatneſſe and defect of his loyaltie.

Afterward came a little Scottiſhman, as thicke as tall, his beard growing ſcattering like buſſies, his noſe flat to his face, two teeth ſtanding before gaggd out of his mouth, a man in euery part very much miſhapen, and ſeruing as a Jeſter to make the King laugh, he had married a woman as handſome as himſelfe, yet was he iealous of her out of all meaſure. This proper Squire ſeing ſo many repulſed by the Statue, by breach of their loyaltie to their Wiues and Ladies, conſidered with himſelfe, that he had neuer violated the bonds of marriage, but euermore kept

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his faith to his wife, therefore he would hazard his good hap, not doubting but to carie the Image of Cupid with him into *Scotland*. Having demanded leaue of the King his Maister, with a little cudgell in his hand, he came to the Colonne, and went by to the verie highest step, the Statue not offering any signe of resistance: but as this deformed fellow would haue embraced the Image of Cupid, the Statue snatched the cudgell out of his hand, and so rapt him therewith about the shoulders, as he was constrained to hye him downe againe, the Kings and all present merily laughing at this iest. Alas poore sole, said the King of *Scots*, how durst thou presume to shew thy selfe in this action: Why my Lord, answered the Duene, your little man is yet found the most loyall, and no Gentleman this day hath witnessed the like. Betwene me Madame, answered the King of *Scots*, it is against his will that he is so loyall, for being so euill fauoured and deformed, how can he finde any woman to offend with him. Come he, the little fellow said the King Milanor, you haue bene beaten with your owne cudgell, because ye came no better prouided: but that the hono^r of the day may remaine to you, I will that at this present no further triall shall be made, enough hath bene done by men, let now the Ladies by their beautie aduenture for the rich Crowne of Venus, and let it suffice that a little fellow hath stained all our Knightes. The Duene in person began the enterprise, but reiected as vnwo^rthy of the fatall Crowne, and after her followed the Ladies of the Court, whose fortunes were like o^r worse in effect, to their no little disgrace in their owne conceites, who prized their beauties at the highest rate. The *London* Dames had likewise their time of profe, yet could their daintie faces carie no patrone in this attempt, for the Crowne was reserued for the onely Lady, who might not be paragorned by any other whatsoeuer.

of Palladin England.

CHAP. IIII.

¶ How after all the Triumphs were ended, perfourmed at the Baptisme of the yong Prince *Palladine*, and the adventures thus left of the three Statues, the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles* tooke their leaue of the King *Milanor* and the Queene, and returned from *England* into their owne Countreys.

B This time were all the Princes and Ladies throughtly satisfied with the pastimes, wherefore with sound of Trompets, Clarions and Cornets, they returned to the Palace, where was prepared for them a most roiall banquet: and bicause the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles* were to depart on the morrow, the Citizens of *London* in honoz of their Prince, came with diuers stately Maskes to the Pallace, where they behaued themselves to their credit, and the Kings good liking.

Afterward entred the hall twelue Gentlemen of the Court, in complete Armour, with blunt Foyles and Targets, when deuiding themselves fire against fire, hauing for their barre two Wykes, which were held ouerthwart by two of the Kings Guard, they layde on each other such eager strokes, as their Swords flew in peeces, and their Armour was battered in many places. When they withdrew themselves, giuing place to twelue other, who Combatted with the Wyke, arming Sword and Battle-Axe, and thus was the night consumed in such disports, to delight the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles*, who in the morning toke their leaue of the King and Queene, and were conducted on their iourney by many English Lords. The King *Milanor* and his Queene being not a little contented, that

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the Princes had done them such honoꝛ in their Realme, but greatest of all was their comfort in their Some Palladine, who in prowesse and loyaltie should surpasse all o-
ther of his time, and was carefully nourished by a vertu-
ous Gentlewoman, wife to an aged Squire, named Ro-
mandrin of *Gaul*, with whome he remained, till he came
to the age of five yeres.

About this time the Quene traualled againe, and was
deliuered of two godly Daughters being Twinnes, the
one whereof was named Marcelina, and the other Florea:
these swete babes were tenderly regarded in the Court,
and there will we leaue them with the Quene their Mo-
ther, remembꝛing yong Palladine, who is in the custodie
of graue and learned tutors, instructed in the Languages,
as also Greeke and Latine, wherein he profited so well, as
at tenne yeres he could speake them as perfect as his
English tong. Herewithall he practised knightly Chi-
ualrie, to manadge great Horses, and all Gentlemanlike
exercises, searching the bowelles of the chiefe Historians,
from them to learne the practises and sleights of Milita-
rie profession. And when the time would not serue him to
Hawke and Hunt, he would keepe himselfe from idlenesse
with his Lute, Banboza and Virginalles, with diuers o-
ther swete Instruments, wherein he took delight, and
grew verie excellent.

This yong Prince thus giuen to all honest and vertu-
ous quallities, began to haue some feeling of his high and
magnanimous spirit, so that to experiment and trie his
owne strength, he would cope with diuers yong Lords
& Gentlemen of his age, to runne in the Litter, to breake
Launces, to Combate with the Spaxe, the Arming-Sword,
and all other weapons, both on horsebacke, and on foote.
In all which exercises, he found not his equall, which
made him desirous of the order of Knighthood, to the end
he might seeke after strange Aduentures, as the King his
Father had done in his youthfull time. Thus continued he

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he fire of leuen moneths in this desire, not daring to acquaint the King his Father therewith, least he should refuse his request in respect of his yong yeres, but the desires, who foresaw the marvellous dares of Armes he should accomplish, and the strange enchantments that should be finished by him, would not suffer him to remaine long slothfull in his Fathers Court among the Ladies and beautifull creatures, but bringing his desire to perfection, found the meane that he should be knighted by the King his Father, as hereafter you shall read more at large.

CHAP. V.

¶ How the Duke Temorro of Millaine, sent his Sonne *Manteleo* into *England*, to be made Knight with the Prince *Palladine*, and how *Manteleo* became enamoured of the Princeesse *Marcelina*.

During this time, the Duke of *Millaine* had a Sonne named *Manteleo*, a yong Prince, and obbertuous nature, brauely disposed to knightly resolutions, and being aged about eightene yeres. He hauing oftentimes heard the famous report, euerie where hyted of the Prince *Palladine* of *England*, and what a

strange aduenture happened at his birth, which could not as yet be ended by any, was very desirous to go see him, that he might be acquainted with the Prince so renowned. And one day finding the Duke his Father walking in his Garden, he came and kneeled before him, desiring licence for thre or foure moneths, to trauaile into *England*, that he might be acquainted with the Prince *Palladine*, of so especial report, as also the wise and debonaire King *Milano* his Father, with whom (quoth he) all Kings and Princes

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louers of vertue, haue euermore desired friendly allyance. Witnesse herof is the King of *Portugall*, the Kings of *Scots* and *Norgalles*, and diuers other Princes straungers: by his hand my Lord, so it stand with your liking, would I receiue my order of knighthood, which he I hope will not denie me, in respect of his owne gracious humanitie, and the consideration he will haue of your person, when he shall vnderstand that I am your Sonne.

The Duke hearing his Sonne in these tearmes, was well pleased to behold him of so good a mind, and contented likewise to graunt what he demaunded, saying. In soth my Sonne, seeing *Fraunce* and *England* are now in peace together, the lesse do I doubt of thy going thither, and boldly mayst thou assure him, that he hath a perpetuall friend of me, determine then to depart when thou wilt, forthwith shall I give order for thy provision in trauaile: but returne not till thou hast tried the aduenture so renowned, which hapned before the Kings Pallace on the day of his Sonnes birth, and if thy good fortune may bring it to an end, well mayst thou mitreate the King for thy Order, in that thou shalt well deserue thy knighthood, seeing so many haue sayled in triall thereof. Manteleo hauing humbly thanked the Duke his father, for graunting him the thing he onely desired, said, I promise you my Lord, that I will not returne thence without proofe of my fortune, albeit I were sure to be repulsed more sharply then any hath bene heretofore: yet since the aduenture is so ordeigned, let me dye ere I be dishonored with feare or dismayng. Whereupon, the Duke called the maister of his Horse, to whome he gaue charge to prouide his Sonnes estate toward *England*, and that all things might be ready for his departure within three daies following: which was accordingly perfourmed, and so the Prince Manteleo with his trayne set forward from *Mullane*, in the wike next after Pentecost, making such expedition in trauaile, as hauing passed the fairest Cities in *Fraunce*, which he was

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was desirous to see, he came to *Bullin*, where he took shipping, and with a merry gale of winde, in lesse then eightene houres, he landed in *England*.

The King *Milano* aduertised of his arriual, was greatly contented therewith, commaunding in all the *Townes* where through he should passe, that he should be receyued and intreated honozably. And when he drew nere *London*, the *Gouernours* were charged to mete him on the way, the Prince *Palladine* likewise to welcome him at the *Citie gates*, and the King with his Quene and Ladies, remained at the *Pallace* to entertaine him. Euerie thing thus perfourmed in greatest maiestie, the Prince of *Milano* was receiued with generall ioy of the *Citizens*, and the Prince *Palladine* accompanied with many great *Lords of England*, to whome *Manteleo* behaued himselfe with honozable modestie, as well he could his Courtship in those affayres, and riding along with the English Prince, he entred into these speeches.

The same of so many laudable vertues, accompanied with heroicall prowesse and magnanimitie, which amply are discerned in your dayly cogitations, hath earnestly prouoked me (good Prince) to be acquainted with you, for which onely occasion, I left my native Countrey, to see this Realme, euery where named happie, by the honozable regiment of the King your Father, whose vertues you imitate so effectually, as you remaine a wonder to them that neuer saw you. And long may good successe attend your dayly actions, heauen making me so fortunate, to winne acceptance in your eyes, in that I haue deuoted my selfe to cōsume of you about all other.

Sir *Manteleo*, answered the Prince *Palladine*, as I knowe my selfe farre vnworthie these titles of prayse, so am I perswaded, that your speeches proceed of god affection towards me, flying reports are oftentimes found true: yet do not I mislike your opinion of me, which hath soyled out the meane to see and knowe you in this Countrey,

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they, as our honorable and well wishing friend. Of the King my Father haue I heard of your parents, and good acquaintance hath he had with the Duke your Father, when as a Knight errant he sought after aduentures: assure your selfe therefore right welcome hither, and gladly shall I accept of you as my friend and companion. Thus beguiled they the time, til they came to the Pallace, where the Prince of *Millaine* stayed to behold the Statues, reading the deuises he had so long desired to see, whereat, not able to maruaile sufficiently, they went on into the great Hall, where the King embraced him verie louingly, the Princes and Lords likewise present, entertained him with exceeding kindnesse and humanitie, in that they had heard the King many times report, the worthie chualrie of the Duke of *Millaine* his Father.

After the King had welcomed this stranger with manyfold courtesies, and had vnderstood the cause of his coming to his Court, he sent him with the Prince Palladine to salute the Quene and her Daughters. But loue, whose puissance as yet he had neuer felt, finding time and opportunity so conuenient, when Manteleo had done his reuerence to the Quene, comming to the Princesses that attended on her, hauing kissed the first, named Marcelina: he found his senses so strangely inueigled, as he stood silent before her a prettie while, being not able to deliuer one word, so was he rauished with contemplation of her beautie. Which the Princess well noting, and imagining this passion to procede by bashfulnesse, or feare, which oftentimes preuents yong Gentlemen when they enter the presence of great Ladies, she toke the Prince by the hand, and thus began.

O my Lord, you are so welcome, as your owne hart can wish, great hath bene your payne and tranayle, comming so farre to see this Court, no sufficient recompence can the King our Father make you, nor we poore Ladies, for this exceeding kindnesse. These words forcing Manteleo to re-
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couer his spirits, caused him returne this aunswere.

In conning hither (swæte Madame) haue I sustayned no paine or trauaile, but rather comfort, pleasure, and pastime. For long since is it, that I desired to offer my seruice to the King your Father, as well for the rare vertues which makes him farre renowned, as also to renew the auncient amitie, that yæ and the Duke my Father haue had together, when they as knightes errant trauayled strange Countreys. Another and chiefe cause, was to see my Lord your Brother, whose second in prowesse is not to be found: and you likewise faire Ladies, whom heauen hath not onely enriched with especiall vertues, but also with rare and most perfect beautie. And though my Starres allotted me no greater good hereby, then to behold the surpassing worke of nature in you both, yet would I repute my trauaile more largely requited, then were I created Emperour of the world, adioyning heere to, if any seruice remayned in me that might be to your liking.

During these speeches, he threw many piercing looks on the Princesse Marcelina, and she returned the like on him, thinking she had neuer seene a more comely Knight in all perfections, her Brother Palladine excepted, gathering by his looks and yielding countenance, that she had wonne some earnest in his loue: with which imagination, her hart was highly contented, and to continue him in this good affection, she thus replied.

Not a little doo I think my selfe beholding to you, my good Lord, noting your forward zeale to the King my Fathers seruice: loth am I to presse yæ with such regard towards me, in that my deseruings are altogether too simple, let my good will then excuse my want, assuring your selfe of a maydens prayers wheresoever you go.

As Mantelco would haue answered, the Prince Palladine came, and thus brake off their talke. I beseech yæ my Lord and companion, to withdraw your selfe into your Chamber, there to repose your selfe after your iourney, for

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of necessitie you must be soze becard, having spent so little time betwene *Millaine* and *England*.

Manteleo departed to his Chamber with Palladine, and in two lodgings ioyning together lay these new friends. There did the *Millayne* Prince cloath himselfe in braue and sumptuous garments, not forgetting the graious speeches of sayre Marcelina, who likewise so soone as he departed, could not keepe in her owne opinions, but with her Sister fell in commendation of Mantelco: setting the loue of him so nere her heart, as she resolved neuer to haue any other Husband, so pleased the King and Quene to giue their consent. Continuing in this determination, thence forthward her extreame desires made her pensiuie and solitarie, yet would she not impart her disease to any one, because she would first make triall of the Princes constancie, least his loue might be impeached with dissembling dalliaunce.

But now is the houre of supper come, when the amorous Prince Mantelco was placed at the table, right ouer against his beloued Marcelina, neither of them being offended at this good hap, but vsing the same as an especiall benefite, with secret glaunces to court each other. Which the Princesse Florea dilligently marked, and seeing her Sister so often to chaunge her couller, coupling therewith many bitten in sighes, she tofore hauing neuer shewed the like: became icalous of the matter, thinking the Prince should as soone affect her as her Sister, yet made she no outward shew of this conceite. But when the Tables were withdrauene, and each one preparing themselves to daunce, Mantelco tooke his Lady Marcelina, without making any offer to Florea, wherewith she became so *mal content*, as to despight them, she would euery day after sit so nere them, as they could not speake one word to each other, but she might easily vnderstand what they said.

The Prince well noting how hee was cross, would the oftner entertaine Marcelina to Daunce, taking the benefite

benefite at the end of each measure, which gave them liberty to conferre together, no one in those excused times being able to impeach them, whereat Florea greatly repined, seeing them talke with such affectionate protestations.

The Pastimes ended, the King and Quene went to their lodgings, Manteleo humbly giuing them the good night, not forgetting the Saint he serued in desires, and afterward the Prince Palladine accompanied him to his Chamber, where after many other speeches betwene them, they concluded on the morrow to request their Knighthood of the King. So Palladine left Manteleo for that night, whose mind was busied with his Ladies favorable words, not doubting but to shew himselfe so forward in Armes, as the Princeesse should receive good occasion to affect him, and graunt him the honor he earnestly desired. In this good hope he laid him downe to rest, the Princeesse Marcelina nothing inferiour to him in amorous opinions, and that night her brother Palladine had told her, that Manteleo and he would intreate their Order of the King, wherewith she was not alittle contented, determining thence forward, to entertaine the Prince of Milan as her Knight.

CHAP. VI.

¶ How the Princes *Palladine* and *Manteleo*, with many other great Lords, were Knighted by the King *Milanor*: and of an aduenture that happened in the Court, which *Palladine* and *Manteleo* ended.

THE faire Aurora chasing away the cloudy night, the Prince *Palladine*, accompanied with many Gentlemen, came to bid Manteleo good morrow. Why: my Lord and companion, quoth he, it seemes you haue forgotten what we determined yesternight, Pardon me good Prince, answered

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swored Manteco, my memorie is not so short: but so sweetly haue I slept this night, as hindered me from rising sooner. Then went they to salute the King, and intreated his Highnesse to graunt them their knighthood. When his Maiestie perceiuing their forwardnesse, and noting the earnest desire of Manteco, thus answered.

Loth am I to denie your request, albeit as yet you are ouer yong, but the good opinion I haue of your prowesse, and so fortunate successe that may befall ye hereafter: doth supply your want of yeres, wherefore, this night performe the holy watch, and to morrow will I giue ye your Order. The two Princes humbly thanking his Maiestie, went to giue order for their Armour and furniture, and at night they entred the Chappell, where spending the time in the accustomed religious exercise, they expect the houre of their long desired hono^r.

In the morning, the King with his Nobilitie entred the Chappell, and as he was busied in the Ceremonies used in such affaires, there entred two Damosels verie brauely apparelled, each of them hauing a goodly Sword in her hand, and with them was an armed knight: then one of the Damosels comming befoze the King, vpon her knee deliuered these speeches.

Wightie and renowned King, excellling in vertue all Princes liuing, vnderstand, that this knight my Brother, is enchaunted by a wicked Sorcerer, for not graunting to accomplish his carnall desire, so that since the time of his refusall, he hath not conuersed with any woman in the world, not with his owne Wife here present, but hateth all Women to the death, to the no little greefe of me and my faire Sister, seeing her selfe so despised of her husband, without giuing any occasion of offence. And many Countreys haue we trauailed, to finde the man or woman that can end this enchauntment, yet hetherto haue we lost all our labour. But true it is, that as we passed through the lesser *Agips*, we happened to meeete with an auncient Lady,

Lady, who gaue vs these two Swords, which (as she said) cannot be drawne by any, but by two knightes, the most valiant and loyall of their time. These worthy men shall vnc charme this knight, and to them belong these Swords, being the best that euer were framed, and their names that shall draw these Swords out of their scabbards, are engraue on the weapons, yet not to be seene till they be drawne. Wherefore right mightie King, we humbly intreate, that this sad aduventure may be tried by your knightes, for very often haue we heard, that this Court is storied with men of greatest vertue.

If the King and all present, were amazed at the coming of the Damosels and the knight, much more were they by hearing the reason of the enchantment.

In sooth, said the Quene, I cannot but pittie the poore Gentleman, that for the carefull regard of his loyaltie, he should receiue so great discourtesie. Doubtlesse, quoth the King, he was a cruell villaine that enchanted him on this occasion, and were he here, either would I cause him to end the enchantment himselfe, or recompence him with his iust deserts. As for you Lady that are Sister to this knight, right gladly do I graunt what you haue requested, and neuer could you haue come in better time, for the greatest part of the knightes in our Realme are here at our Court, besides, diuers other am I presently to endue with the Order, which being done, they shall all trie their fortune in this aduventure. Whereupon, the newe knightes were immediatly dubbed, and each after other laboured to pull forth the enchanted Swords, which they could not stirre the length of halfe a fote, except Orli-man of *Flaunders*, and Durandell of *Ciene*, who drew them wel-nere to the middest.

The newe knightes Palladine and Mantelco, seeing no one could altogether vnsheath them, toke the Swords to trie what they were able to do, and they drew them forth so easly as they had bene their owne weapons, each one reioysing

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reioysing the aduenture was ended, especially Marcelina, who by this first proofe perceived, what knightly bountie and loyaltie remained in her friend. The Damoisels being glad of this good hap, the knightes Sister thus spake to the King.

Yet is not this all Sir, so it may stand with your likings, my brother must dub these knightes with these Swords, and they are to graunt him one request, which he shall afterward demaund of them. For that I am content, sayd the King, but let vs see whose names are engrauen on the Swords. Palladine shewed his to the King, and thereon was engrauen in great Romane Letters these words, Palladine of Aquilea, whereat he was both ioyfull and amazed, that the Surname of Aquilea was given to Palladine. For Aquilea was a Realme vnder the government of the Pagans, and Palladine was a Christian, nor could he tell what to imagine hereof, but desired Manteleo to shew his Sword: wheron was engrauen in the like Characters, Manteleo the Millaynois, which made him equall with his companion in gladnesse, but most of all faire Marcelina, in whose brest loues fire more and more enkindled.

The strange Knight feeling himselfe released from enchantment, took the Swords, and therewith gaue the Order to the two Princes, afterward thus speaking to them. Will yee (my Lords) graunt me now one bene? That shall we Sir, quoth they, the King hath already promised, we must not then denie it. By request is, sayd the Knight, that you would depart hence with me within these three dayes, and accompanie me to the place whither I shall conduct yee. Hereof will we not faile, answered Palladine, so please yee to set forward to morrow. Not so, quoth the King, you must forethinke in what equipage you are to depart hence, as also what companie you must haue with yee: beside, I will that the Knight and the Ladies rest themselves awhile in our Court.

If Palladine was ioyfull to follow aduentures, you must


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must thinke Manteco was as soze, seeing he must so soon forsake his Marcelina, who hauing likewise heard what was concluded, shewed by the change of her vermillion collour to pale and wan, how greatly this seperation displeased her, deuising by what meanes she might hinder this voyage.

Manteco beholding the teares in his Ladies eyes, imagined the cause, and thereby her earnest affection towards him, which touched him inwardly with such assaults, as feeling a sudden weakenesse to surprize him, he was forced to leane on his Squires shoulder, whereat the King maruailing, said. How now Sir Manteco? are you not well? In soth my Lord, quoth he, neuer was I in so straunge an alteration before. I perceiue said the King the cause hereof, these Ladies aduenture hath kept you too long fasting, high time is it that you had some refection. The Prince was contented to allow this fit excuse, least otherwise his secret loue should be disclosed. Let vs to meate then, sayd the King, so; long fasting is hurtfull, and mine owne stomacke telles me that it is dinner time.

CHAP. VII.

¶ Of the feast was made, after the two Princes *Palladine* and *Manteco* were Knighted, and how they tried the aduenture of the Statues, which they could finish.

 departed the King from the Chappell, and in the great Hall the Tables were couered for dinner; where wanted no store of choyse and daintie delicates, crowding the rather at this time, for the honor of the new made Knightes. The Prince Manteco sate in his wonted place before Marcelina, but unhappy

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was it so; her, that her Sister Florea late so nere her, who still remained suspicious of their silence, by which occasion, these tormented louers durst not speake to each other, but all dinner time with humble and affectionate regards, they deliuered the secret messages of their hearts. When the Tables were withdralone, some falling to dauncing, and others to deuise with their Ladyes: by good hap, one of the new Knightes, being one of the chiefeſt Lords in the Court, inreated the Princesse Florea to daunce, meane while the *Millanois* had leysure to courte his mistresse.

Tell my good Lord, quoth she, is there no remedie but we must lose your companie within these thre dapes: beleeue me, little did I thinke you would haue left vs so ſone. Assure your ſelfe Madame, said the Prince, there is nothing can be moze displeaſant to me, but in reſpect, I cannot with honeſtie, and without great impeach to mine honoꝝ, gainſay the matter ſo abſolutely promiſed, let me intreate ye not to miſdeme of any thing. And here I vow by the religious faith I owe to your excellencie, that whether will I returne againe ſo ſone as I can poſſible. Beſide, if the Knight whome we muſt accompanie, ſhall offer to ſtray farre from this Realme, ſome ſufficient excuſe will I finde to forſake his companie. Meane while, let me intreate ye to afford me thus much fauour, to accept me as your Knight and ſervant: and if as yet I haue deliuered no deſart, whereby I might attaine to ſuch a tiſe of happineſſe, I hope ſuch ſhall be my behauiour hereafter, as you ſhall haue no cauſe to repent your gift.

Oh my Lord, quoth ſhe, ſuch ſoueraigntie haue you gained ouer my thoughts, as nothing can I reſuſe, what you with honoꝝ request: I accept you then as my Knight (with which words ſhe toke a rich Diamond from her finger) in ſigne whereof, take this it well, and weare it for my ſake wherſocuere you come hereafter. He taking the ring with exceeding reuerence, thus answered.

Sweete Madame, moſt humbly doe I thanke ye for this fauour,

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faunour, which I will keepe as mine owne life. And needlesse is it so; you to giue me any thing, whereby I might the better remember ye, so; so liuely is your diuine figure imprinted in my hart, that no fortune, how good or bad so euer, can haue power to blemish or deface. As she was about to aunswere, the King started from his chaire, and conning to the Prince Mantelco, sayd, Better leysure to daunce shall we haue after supper, let vs now go see our yong knightes in the Lises, to trie if since their order was giuen, their strength is impaired or increased.

Then ceased the instruments and the dauncing, the knightes going all to arme themselves, each one verie ioyfull of this occasion, but especially the Prince Mantelco, so; the great desire he had to be seene in the Ioust, yet remembering the aduenture of the Statues, saine would he trie his fortune there ere he entred the Lises, and mouing the King thereof, his Maiestie liked it very well, who with the Quene, and all the Courtly assistants, came to their wonted Scaffold, when the Prince Palladine was the first that aduentured for the Shield, saying. I haue heard that such as laboured to win this Shield, haue borne verie sharply repulsed by this Statue, but I thinke it was through want of demanding licence to take it, therefore will I reason with the keeper thereof, to knowe if this Shield be destined to me, so aduancing himselfe to the Statue, armed at all points verie hauely, he thus spake. Suffer me (faire Image) to take this Shield without the Combate, as if I may not haue it otherwise, determine to defend thy selfe. The Statue made in resemblance of a Lawdge man, thus replied. I will not Combate with one so yong, and a knight so vncperienced as thou art, therefore I counsell thee to go make proofe of thy beautie else where, then will I deale with thee in Combate, otherwise, neuer thinke to win this Shield. I see well said Palladine to Mantelco, that the end hereof is not referred forane. Hey (my Lord) if your fortune be
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any better then mine. Whereupon, Manteleo mounted the Steps, thinking to go take downe the Shield, but the Statue thrust his hand before it, saying. No: is it (as yet) for thee, that thou shouldest attempt to take this Shield, it behoues thee to be much more exercised in armes, and therefore content thy selfe. Good reason haue I to thinke, said Manteleo, that I haue not as yet merited so high a guerdon, by reason of my insufficiencie in martiall affaires, therefore I will presume no further: but in the aduenture of Cupid: predestinated to the most loyall, after you Sir Palladine will I hazard my selfe.

By my faith, quoth the Prince, I will not meddle with him, for (as yet) I haue nothing to do with the God of Loue, no: know I what puissance he hath ouer humaine creatures, therefore will I stand forth of his reach. The like may I say, quoth Manteleo, yet will I attempt to win his portrait: To giuing a piercing glaunce on the Princess Marcelina, he drew his Sword, and with resolu'd assurance approached the Statue, who presently snatching his fauchion from his side, resisted him in such sort, as betwene them was a long and doubtfull Combate, to the great admiration of the King and all present. Yet maugre the peasant strokes of the brayn Image, he attained to the highest step of all, each one then thinking that Cupid was his owne: but so weightie were the cruell charges of the Statue, as he was enforced to fall downe backward in a swoone, to the great griefe of the King, Quene, and Palladine, but chiefly of Marcelina, who seeing his Armour broken in so many places, and the blood (as she thought) to issue from him so abundantly, perswaded her selfe that he had perished by his ghost. Ah gentle Prince, quoth she to her selfe, if thou be dead, I am the onely cause thereof, for well I know, that for my loue thou didst enterprise this aduenture, too deere hast thou bought thy coming into England, and the earnest affection thou didst beare to me.

While Marcelina continued these regrets, the Prince
Palladine

Palladine with other Knightes recovered Manteco, and vnarming him, perceiued he was not wounded at all, but weary and ouerstrauailed, with so long resisting the cruell blowes of the Image, whereon could none of the Princes strokes be discerned, though the clanching of his weapon made a wonderfull noise. Manteco finding himselfe fresh and lustie, would haue returned againe to the Statue, but the King stayed him with these words.

He thinks (my Lord) you haue done enough already, let others now haue time for their triall. At which speeches, the other Knightes followed as their turnes came, each one being as roughly handled as the Prince Manteco: who grieved that he had not ended the aduventure, thinking that Marcelina would withdraw her affection, reputing him vnworthie her loue, that could deliuer no better proofe of his loyaltie. And in truth at the first she was iealous thereof, but in the end she perswaded her self, that such a hidden vertue could not be discerned in a man, untill he receiued the sweetes of loue by his Lady, which opinion made her zeale more vehement to the Prince.

The King seeing the day was verie farre spent, referred the rest of the sports till the morrow, when Manteco had good hope to recouer his honoꝝ in the Joust, to the especiall good liking of his Lady and mistresse. So the King with his Lords returned to the Pallace, and the Knightes hauing vnarmed themselves, came into the Chamber of Presence, where the Prince deuising with his faire Goddesse, with many perswasions excused his bad successe, which she could not but take in good part, considering that intire loue couers all occasions of dislike.

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CHAP. VIII.

¶ How *Manteles* won the honor of the Tournament, and vanquished two straunge Knights.

Now is the day come, when the young knights should shew themselves in open field, except the Prince *Manteleo*, who excused himselfe by riding on hunting, and therefore borrowing his friend *Palladines* hounds, left the Court, causing his horse and armour to be secretly commande to a keepers Lodge, which was a mile and more from the Citie, because he would not haue any one knowe what he intended. Meane while the Toustes began, the King maruelling at the absence of *Manteleo*, especially *Palladin* and faire *Marcelina*, who missing her friend at dinner, imagined he was gone without bidding her adieu, and the occasion thereof to be, because he had failed in the aduventure of *Cupid*.

The Champions coming into the field, the foremost were *Mutliell* of *Rostock*, and *Brunifort* his brother, on the other side came *Durandell* of *Claue*, and *Orliman* of *Fluunders*, with all their companie in seemely equipage. When the Verals had commaunded the knights to their deuoir, *Mutliell* and *Durandell* gaue the spurres to their horses, and after they had broken three launces a peece with braue chivalrie, at the fourth encounter they met together so furiously, as they were both cast forth of their saddles to the ground. Next followed *Brunifort* and *Orliman*, who dismounted each other at the first attaint, but *Brunifort* recovered his horse againe quickly, when *Sedonis* Sonne to the Duke of *Suffolke* had him play, yet accompanied *Orliman* in his misfortune. Whereupon, Grinday,
Sonne

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forme to the Duke of *Orton*, reuenged his fellowes wrong, and such valour they shewed on either side, as the honoz of the day was giuen to them, the King with all his Nobles being readie to depart: when suddenly entred the *Lyses* two strange Knightes in white Armour, resembling each other, the one bearing in his Shield thre Griffons Sable volant, in a field Argent, the other thre Griffons Argent in a Sable field.

After these Knightes had shewen many carres, and brane voltages with their horses befoze the Ladies, one of them encountred *Brunitort* with such courage, as he was throlone to the ground with his heeles upward: the like successe had *Mustell*, *Orliman*, and the rest, to the no little admiration of the King and all the Ladies, and great veneration of *Palladine*, who would not Joust, because his companion *Manteleo* was not there.

As the King was about to depart, giving the prize to these two strange Knightes, there entred the *Lyses* another Champion in white Armour, bearing in his Shield a Hart Cuelles, bound with a golden chaine, and without making any reuerence, or shewing any bravaadoes with his horse, he met one of the strange Knightes so roughly, as he was sent to measure his length on the ground. The other strange Knight, to reuenge his fellowes iniurie, came courageously against this new-come Knight, and after the breach of two or thre Launces, was sent to keepe his friend companie, wherewith not a little enraged, he drew his sword, and coming to the Knight, said. I confesse Sir, that thou hast the maistrise ouer me at the Launce, let me now try my fortune better or worse in Combate. Where- to the other willingly consented, but the King intercepted them, saying. Not so Gentlemen, I will not that any Combate shall now be fought, in respect the Joust was ordeyned for pleasure, and to exercise our Knightes to delight their Ladies: enough therefore is done for this day, let anger cease betwene yee, and friendly embrace each other,

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other, letting me understand of whence you are, that I may do you the honor you haue deserved. With right good will my Lord, answered the vanquished Knight, my companion and I are friends with this Knight, who deserves great estimation for his worthie prowesse. As for our names, and of whence we are, I am called Landashines, Sonne to the King of *Norgalles*: and my friend is named Simprinell, Sonne to the King of *Scots*.

When the King Milanor, and the Prince Palladine had knowledge of the Knightes, they came from the Scaffold, and embraced them with exceeding courtesie: but when they knew the Conquerour to be Manteleo, I leaue their maruellous ioy to your imaginations. As it true my Lord, quoth the King, haue you stollen such an occasion to expresse your valour: Your Maestie knowes, answered Manteleo, that I am but newly Knighted, and therefore but little experienced in Armes, nor durst I discover my selfe before your Highnesse, least my fortune should haue proved as contrary as it did yesterday, which you must imagine I toke discontentedly. You neede not feare hereafter, said the King, to shew your selfe in chiefe places of Chiuallrie, in that a beginning so good and fortunate, must needs in continuance be as prosperous. Whereupon, the three Knightes verie louingly embraced each other, swearing a perpetuall league of amitie betwene them, which they religiously held irrenocable, as in the discourse of our historie you may behold.

Manteleo hauing saluted the Queene and her Ladies, Palladine came to welcome his friend, rebuking him for not acquainting him with his intent: which he excused as he did to the King, hauing more mind to regard his sweete Distresse, then to be entertained with all these ceremonies. And you must thinke her ioyes were beyond common conceit, seeing her Knight returned whom she feared was lost: nor was she so suspitious at his repulse against the God of loue, as she was now zealous of his honorable successe.


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These *bien venues* and embracings passed over, the King and all of them returned to the Pallace, where the two new-come princes had their lodgings appointed, Palladine and Manteleo keeping them companie, recounting the adventure of the two Damosels and the enchanted Knight, with whome on the morrow they were to depart. Therefore they spent that night in dawning and courtlye discourses, the Princes of *Norgalles* and *Scors* deuising with the Ladies, wherewith the Court of England was plentifully stor'd, and whome they commended to excell all other nations in beautie.

CHAP. IX.

How the Princes *Palladine*, and *Manteleo*, departed from London, with the Knight that was enchanted and the two Damosels, and what happened to them by the way.

 On the morrow early in the morning, *Palladine* and *Manteleo* armed themselves, & with the Knight that was enchanted and the two Damosels; they came and took their leave of the King and Quene: afterward they went to the young Princes chamber, wher a *Muchina* perceiving her Knight would needs be gone, brake forth into teares and sad regrets. What meane you *Sister*, quoth *Palladine*, is our departure displeasing to you: Not so good brother, answered she, but I doubt least your returne should be hindered by any misfortune, for you are as yet but young, and little acquainted with the contrary nature of strange Countreys, I confesse that *Sister*, quoth *Palladine* but every one must haue a learning, beside, you knowe our promise to this Knight

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contrayneth vs hereto, nor would I for all the world
breake my word: as for our returne, perswade your selfe
it will be sooner then you imagine. I assure y^e thereof Ma-
dame, sayd the knight that was enchanted, for I will
not leade them farre from this Realme, nor into any place
of danger. Mantelco had his heart so scaled vp with griefe,
beholding his mistresse to shed so many teares, as he was
not able to speake one word, whereby Palladine presently
gathered suspition, that secret loue betwixt them had
caused this chaunge, wherefore, bidding his Sisters a-
dieu, he departed the chamber with the knight and the
Damosels, leauing Mantelco to say what further he
would, but griefe brake him off with these speeches. You
knowe Madame what I haue promised, with which
wordes, the teares trickling downe his cheekes, he kissed
her, and the Princesse Florca likewise, and so went to seeke
Palladine, whome he found readie mounted with their
Squires at the Court gate.

So departed these two companions in armes with
their trayne, with resolution befoze their returne, to make
the world aquainted with their bountie and promise:
chiefly Mantelco for the loue of his Marcelina, who pre-
sently after her Lords departure, withdrew her selfe alone
into her Cabinet, and continuing her teares, breathed
forth these sad laments.

Ah loue, who euer thought thy strength to be of such
puissance, so violent hath thine entrance borne into my
hart, as impossible is it for me to liue long, vnlesse my loy-
all friend giue me remedie, so none but he can giue me re-
medie. Alas, why is it not permitted vs to trauaile
straunge Countreys as well as men: had fortune so fa-
uoured our sex, thou shouldst not (swete friend) be long
without me, but miserable is our condition to be thus sub-
iected. Many other amorous complaints made the sor-
rowfull Marcelina, whom we will now leaue, and returne
to the Princes, being scant a mile on their way: when Pal-
ladine

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ladine intreated the Knight that was enchanted, to tell him whether they should trauaile, of whence he was, how, and wherefore he had bene enchanted.

My Lord, answered the Knight, right gladly would I satisfie your demaund, but hardly can I recount my infortunes without extream greefe, so greatly doth the verie remembrance thereof displease me: therefore I pray you be contented that my Sister be the reporter heereof, for well can she reueale euery accident. Trust me, sayd Palladine, and well it liketh me to heare her speake: so riding along, and the Damosell betwene them, she began her discourse in this manner.

Seeing it pleaseth you to vnderstand the fortunes of this Knight, willingly will I discouer them vnto you, bearing farre otherwise then I rehearsed in the presence of the King, on the day when you receyued your Knighthood: but the cause why I so disguised the truth, was through feare least his Maiestie would haue hindered your going with vs. Vnderstand then, that this Knight my Brother, this Lady my Cousin, and my selfe, were all three borne in the Realme of *Hungaria*, at what time it was vnder the gouernment of the great Turke. My Brother was there married to one of the most beautifull Ladies in the Countrey, and dwelt in a small Tillage on the frontiers of the Realme, where a Gentleman (much about your yeeres) fell in acquaintance with him, the continuance wherof bred such amitie betwene them, as my Brother intreated him to lodge in his house, and two of his nearest kinsmen with him. But in an unhappie houre chaunced this frandship, for this Gentleman too uncourteous for this great kindness, seeing my Brothers wife so perfect in beautie, became enamoured of her in such sort, as he onely desired the knowledge of her, forgetting the honor and regard of his friendly hoste. Yet could not intreaties, sollicitings, gifts and faire promiser, obtaine that of her he thirsted after, wherefore despairing of his successe, he went to a

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Brother, who gaue him a druggge of such force, as should
 depriue my Sister of her speech, by meanes whereof, he
 might rauish her, or carie her whither him pleased, she be-
 ing not able to defend her selfe, or call for any ayde. This
 Gentleman hauing entrusted his two kinsmen in the
 matter, came one night into my Sisters chamber, and be-
 ing assured that my Brother and his seruants slept sound-
 ly, tooke her thence against her will, afterward giuing her
 to his friends, who caried her thence into a ship was rea-
 dy to set sayle. In short time they had gotten whether
 they would, landing at a strong Castell belonging to this
 Gentleman, where, though he had her in his custodie, yet
 could he obtayne nothing but refusalls, and sharpe dis-
 daynes, yet in time he imagined to make her more trac-
 table. My Brother in the morning seeing his wife and
 guests thus gone, suspected the ill that happened, so di-
 uers that met them toward the Sea, came and told him
 what they sawe, whereupon, he tooke this iniurie so gra-
 uously, as he was euen at the point to despaire. *Abraham*
Traytor (quoth he) is this the recompence for my good
 will to thee? for the honoꝝ and good entertainment thou
 hast had in my house, dost thou rewarde me with this vil-
 lanie? Come my friends, let vs follow them, and either
 by fire, water, or weapons, destroy the adulterer, that
 hath thus robd me of my onely delight. May it be (swate
 wife) that this happened with thy consent? couldst thou
 serue him so y^e loued thee as his life? no, well may I be as-
 sured of thy loyalty. An Aunt of ours, who sometime was
 wife to a sage Jigromancer, seeing my Brother wel-near
 beside himselfe, such was his græfe for the losse of his wife,
 tooke pittie on him, and to preuent the ill which she fore-
 sawe was like to ensue, she wrote a letter to a wise ma-
 trone in the Realme of *Aquileia*, commaunding vs to carie
 it to her, and that my Brother should trauaile thither
 with vs, which we did, finding the good old Lady where
 the Letter directed vs, which was in a little Desert of
 mountaines,


mountaines, hauing no other habitation then in the caues:
which seemed olde and greatly ruinated, in the middest
wherof was a fountaine, ouerhadowed with the boughes
of a great Elme tre. So sone as she beheld vs, she de-
maunded for the Letter we brought, which when she had
read, she commaunded vs to rest our selues by the foun-
taine, while she went into her Caue for the two Swords
you now enioy, and returning, she bathed them in the
fountaine, mumbling certaine speeches softly to her selfe,
and comming to vs, sayd. See here Ladies two Swords,
which can be drawne out of their sheathes by none, except
the two best knightes in the world, by whose assistance
this Gentleman shall recouer his losse, and be reuenged on
the Traytor that thus wronged him. Take these Swords
with ye, and search the Courts of kings and most renown-
med Princes, to finde those gentle Knightes extelling in
vertues, and them twaine that can draw forth these
Swords, shall you conuert to the place where the Lady a-
biderth, for whome this noble Gentleman is so torment-
ed, to whome (for her sake that sent ye) will I presently giue
such a remedie, as shall diminish part of the græfe he en-
dureth. So giuing vs the two Swords, with a little white
wand she smote thre blowes on the Elme tre, from
whence flew forth a Bird crying very pitifully: then with
the wand she troubled the water in the fountaine, vsing
certaine priuate speeches againe, and taking a little of the
water in her hand, she dreined it on my brothers head, say-
ing. Now go and commend me to your Aunt, and to the
two Knightes that shall draw the Swords, to whome I
will that thou giue the order of knighthood, to the ende
their vertue, courage, and magnanimitie may be increa-
sed. So left we the old Lady, and euer since followed her
commaundement, making a bootlesse search in many pla-
ces, till we found you to whome the aduenture was desti-
ned. And thus (my Lords) haue you heard the entire dis-
course of my Brothers misfortune. Now as concerning

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what remaineth, we must conduct ye into *Hungaria*, to the Castell where my faire Sister is enclosed, and where the villaine abideth that stole her from my Brother. Yet is her hono^r preserved from any attaint, so; as the Trayto^r one day would haue rauished her, mine Aunt (of whome I spake) by aduenture came thither, and hauing throwne the paillard out of the chamber by the shoulders, enchanted the same in such sort, as none may enter therein but my Brother, no; can he come there but by your ayde. A dole of such hono^r and charitie I hope you will not refuse, in reuenging our wrong on that malevolent villaine, which shall be easie so; you to doe, as the aforesaid wife prophesie declared to vs. The Princes hauing heard this monstrous treason, thus answered. We will assist ye faire Lady to our uttermost, no; shall ye neede to whet vs on with perswasions, so; we are bound by dutie to reuenge actions so soule and enoyme. Fo; this kinde replye, she gaue them many thanks, spending the time in these and like conferences, and two daies rode they without any aduenture worthie the rehearsall.

CHAP. X.

¶ How *Palladine* and *Manteleo* met foure Knightes, with whome they Combatted, and the issue thereof.

The third day, as the Princes with their companie issued south of a thick wood, they met four Knightes, of whome (after courteous salutations) *Palladine* demanded whether they trauailed. Directly towarde *London*, answered one of them, where the King abideth as we vnderstand. And the cause of our iourney thether, is to trie an aduenture of two Swords, which not

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not long since were caried thither, unable to be dyalme by any, but by two of the best knightes in the world.

If you go for no other occasion, answered Palladine, well may ye spare that labour, for two yong knightes ended the aduventure two dayes since and moze.

Two yong knightes: quoth another of them, of what Countrey I pray ye? The one, said Palladine, is an *Englishman*, and the other an *Italian*, bozne in *Millyayne*. By my faith, quoth the knight in a great laughter, belike then the enchauntment was no hard matter to finish, nor was any hidden vertue to be discerned therein, when an *Italian* and an *Englishman* could hyng it to ende. Wery fewe good knightes are founde among the *Italians*, in whome is moze ostentation and hyauadoes, then matter of moment and effect: and in *Englishmen* is much lesse, being reputed in all Countreys for men of little estimation.

The two yong knyghtes hearing their Countreys so dyspaised, began to growe in marvailous choller, especially Mantelco, who bending the wyndes, and enflamed with inqumchable anger, thus answered. Of whence are you Sir, that can so well collaude the knightes of *England* and *Italy*? What moues you to vse such speeches, being in the Kingdome you discommend? Trust me, if you haue any wit, you make no shew thereof in your wordes. Be not angry, answered the knight, I see by your cosler that you sweate in your Armour: but if ye continue this mode, you haue met with *Sparyards* that will walke ye a litle. And here haue you met an *Englishman* and an *Italian* sayd Mantelco, euen they that ended the aduventure of the enchaunted swordes, who presently will teach ye to temper your tang.

With these wordes, he went to his Squire for his Lance, placing it to encounter him that gaue the speeches, but Palladine called to him, saying: Forbeare my Lord, and let me deale with him, for I ought to begin first, because the offence was first made to me. *Before, that we be*
my

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my Countrey, it belongeth then to me to correct their folly, making by pꝛofe what an *Englishman* is able to do. If you see me stand in neede of your helpe, do as you shall finde occasion, otherwise, let me alone with these lusty *Sparyards*. Palladine without any further speeches, with a brane carre encountred the prating companion, who, though he brake his Launce with good courage on the Prince, was throwne with such violence from his horse, as he lay not able to stirre hand or foote. Which when the other three beheld, they ran altogether against the Prince, who gave the foremost such a friendly welcome, as falling on his head to the ground, brake his necke with the weight of his owne bodie. The other twaine (at this encounter) had broken their Launces on Palladine, and now drew their Swords, thinking to reuenge their fellows ill fortune: but greatly did they finde themselves deceived, for the Prince seeing he had no more to deale withall then these two, redoubled so many fierce strokes vpon them, as the one fell out of his Saddle deprived of his senses, and the other to saue his life, would haue fled away: the Prince dis-appointing him of that benefit, by hamstringing his horse, caused him to fall to the earth, when snatching off his helmet, with his Sword would haue smitten his head from his shoulders. Alas Sir Knight, cried the vanquished *Sparyard*. saue my life, I yeld my selfe to thy mercy: what I haue done against thee, was in reuenge of my Brother whome thou first dismounted: accursed be the houre that he spake so indiscretly, this is not the first time I haue endangered my life, onely to sustaine his fond and ouerfolish quarrels. Mercie I graunt thee, answered Palladine, so thou promise and sweare to fulfill one thing, which is, that so soone as thy woundes are healed, thou shalt go to the King of *Englands* Court, there submitting thy selfe to his will and mercie. And thou shalt say to him, that the two Knights which departed thence with two Ladies, and a Knight who was there deliuered from imprisonment, ar
reuerent

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retirent wife salate his Spanish, hauing sent thee to be disposed at his pleasure. Whereover, thou shalt not faile to tell him the cause, why we sent thee in this sort to his highnesse. The like declaration shalt thou make before the Quene, and her two Daughters Marcelina, and Florca. All this will I gladly accomptly answered the Spaniard, but as for my Brother, and the other Knightes, I thinke they will neuer passe further, so: by ought I can perceine, there is no signe of life left in them. They haue no more, answered Manteleo. then they worthily deserued, ought they to misprize or detract strange Knightes, chiefey such as are of one nation: yet let vs see in what estate they are. So comming to the knight that was first dishonoured, and finding him dead, by reason of the aboundance of blood he had lost, as also because his Helmet hindered him from the aire: Unhappy man, said his Brother, oftentimes haue I told thee, that thy pride and ouer-winning would one day cause thy death. Be thou warned hereby, sayd the enchaunted knight, and leaue another time to vs more courtlesse to knightes, how yong or oid soeuer they be: for thou and thy companions did imagine, that because these two yong Princes were no further entred in peres, that therefore they were vnprouided of courage and vertue, but by outward behauiour neuer iudge of men hereafter. So well do I perceiue your words are true, but I desire ye looke if my Cousins haue accompanied my Brother in death, or no. Palladine finding them to be aliue, offered with his Sword to haue smitten off their heads. Villaines (quoth he) you are but dead men: if you will redaine your liues, you shall promise me to go submit your selues to the King of Englands mercie, recounting to him wherefore, how, and by whome you haue bene vanquished. Sir, answered one of them, there is nothing that we will not gladly promise and performe, so: the raui- some of our liues, and whereupon I sweare to you, that I will not faile whout you haue continued. You shall a-

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uouch the like quoth the Prince to the other Knight, whereupon, he that was so sore hurt with his fall from his horse, could make no answer but by signes, so that with many sad countenances he shewed his consenting. Now may ye depart when ye please, said Palladine, and say, that *Englishmen* are better Knightes then *Spaniards*. So hauing buried the Knight that was slaine, they departed, not a little glad they were so well escaped, but they took small care of performing their promise, as you shall perceiue by the sequell of our historie.

CHAP. XI.

¶ How Palladine and Manteles with their company, arrived in the Realme of *Hungaria*, where the Gentleman remayned that stole the Lady from the enchanted Knight, and what fortun'd to them by the way.



After the Princes had left the *Spaniards*, they rode on their iourney, and coming to the port of *Gorforce*, they took shipping when the seas were still and calme, expecting a winde to passe into *Holland*, which sitting their expectations, crossing through *Zeland*, they came to *Trull*, where Palladine furnished himselfe

with new Armour, because his other was greatly battered in fousling with the Knightes.

Hauing contented themselves with the sight of *Holland*, they passed the *Rheme*, and entred *Almayne*, where arriuing on the frontiers of *Bohemia*, they beheld a Lion coming toward them, carrying a yong Infant (wrapped in swadling clothes) in his mouth, and a yong woman running after the beast, with verie pitifull cries and acclamations. Behold (quoth Palladine) how a sauadge beast bath

hath gotten a yong Infant, let vs alight, to see if we can
force him forgoe his pray. The poore woman seeing how
readie they were to helpe her, cryed aloud to them, that
they should get betwene the Lion and his Caue, least (en-
tring with the child) there should remaine no hope of re-
couerie.

When the Lion saw he could not enter his denne, he let
fall the Infant, and furiously assailed the Prince Mantleo,
who gaue the beast such a wound on the head, as made
him cry and rore very dreadfully. At which noyse, a Li-
nesse came forth of the Caue from her yong ones, and she
likewise ranne on the noble Mantleo, but Palladine and
his Squires so valiantly assisted him, as the beastes were
in short time overcome and slaine. Then came the poore
woman and took vp her child, which when she beheld had
escaped all daunger, on her knees she humbly thanked the
Princes for their good assistance. One of the Damocles ta-
king the child in her armes, and seeing it both beautifull
and comely, said to the mother. Great had bene the losse
good woman, that these cruell beastes should haue deuou-
red so swete an Infant: but why were you so negligent
to endaunger it so much?

Madame, answered the poore woman, not by my fault
did this inconuenience happen, for I earning my lining by
dayly labour, by binding faggots which my husband cuts
in the wood, left my child with one of my neighbours in
keeping. Now she suffered this mishap, I know not, but as
I returned from the wood, and meeting the Lion with my
child, which full well I knew by the swadling cloathes, I
made what haste I could after the beast, hoping by some
meanes to recouer my child, which now (I thanke God
and you) I haue done. For is this the first time we haue
bene thus serued: for in this little Village, being but
teeme or twelue households in number, three children haue
bene lost within these sixe moneths, the parents still thin-
king some Wolves or peasants had stollen them, but now in

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god tyme haue wee sounde the These. And seeing these Gentlemen haue slaine the Lion and Lionesse, it may be they haue some yong ones in this Caue, which I gladly would haue destroyed likewise, so shall we be in no further daunger hereafter. That will I sone trie, said Palladine: go to your house, and fetch me some fire, and withall, bring some sheaves of th: asshed corne, for Lions cannot abide the sight of fire, and by this meane shall we see what is in the darke Caue.

Right sone did the woman accomplish her charge, bringing strawe and fire with her, and sixe or seauen sturdy fellowes, with staues, flayles, and pikeforkes: when Palladine hauing set the strawe on fire, with the countrye peasants entred the Caue, where he found th: yong Lionesses like little dogs, and the clothes of diuers children deuoured by the beasts. To behold this strange sight, he called the two Damosels, and the poore woman into the Caue, saying: These beastes should haue dined with your child to day, but God hath appointed his end in better sort, and because you shall remaine in no further dread of these yong ones, were I not so farre from *England*, I would send them to the King, who I am sure would accept them for our sakes. My Lord, quoth one of the poore countrey men, I will undertake to fulfill your mind in this, and will carie them to *England*, if you please to commaund me: full well doe I knowe how to vse them, for my father nourished one like to these a long time, and when it grew great, he gaue it to our King, who sent it as an especiall present to the King of *France*. In sooth, quoth the Prince, if thou wilt perfourme what thou hast promised, I will giue thee money to defray thy charges, and theirs likewise whome thou wilt take with thee. Letters will I also send by thee, to safe-conduct thee on the way, and that thou mayst be welcome into *England*. Whence thou canst not returne without sufficient recompence. Of that my Lord I haue no doubt, answered the poore man, for oftentimes
haue

hane I heard reported, that the King, Villamor of England, is one of the most vertuous Princes on the earth: and though I receiued no other benefite by him, I would account my labour well bestowed, onely to see a King accounted so famous. Beside, such great good hane you done vs, in killing these rauenous and dangerous beastes, as in signe of our willing mindes, to make you further recompence if we were able, if the iourney were tenne times further, you should command vs. So coming forth of the Caue, the poore men provided Panmiers to carrie the yong beastes: in meane while, the Prince wrote to the King his Father, describing what had befallen them in their iourney, and what valour Manteleo had shewen in killing the Lions: not forgetting his salutations to the Princeesse Marcelina, with all the other Ladyes of the Court. Having sealed his Letters, he gaue them to the countreyman, and money sufficient to beare his charges, who taking his leaue of the Princes, in few dayes after set on his iourney toward England.

Palladine and Manteleo mounting on horseback, with their companie toke the way to Hungaria, which at length they reached, lodging in a little Village, about a mile distant from the Castell where the Gentleman abode, who detaned the wife to the Knight that had bene enchanted. There the Princes concluded to rest themselves that night, and on the morrow, the Knightes Sister should goe to accuse the Gentleman of Treason, and to knowe of him whether he would maintaine his cause man to man in Combate, or two against two, or three to three if he durd so accept it. Upon this determination they supped merily together, Manteleo still remembryng his faire Marcelina, and Palladine his intended action of honoꝝ. So betaking themselves to rest, Palladine dreamed, that he beheld a goodly Lady befoze him, who vsing certaine speeches to him softly, layd her hand very kindly on his head, and so departing the chamber againe, made such a noise, as he

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stoked therewith. Long he studied what this Lady should be, but could not gesse on any thing directly, wherefore he concealed his dreame to himselfe, albeit not long after he compassed his desire, as you shall at large behold hereafter.

CHAP. XII.

¶ How the Princes *Palladine*, *Manteleo*, and the enchanted Knight, fought the Combate with the Gentleman of the Castell and his two Brethren, and the successe therof.



My were the seuerall apparitions that these Princes had in their sleep this night, the one, of his loue in the Court of *England*, and the other of the Lady that thus had solicited him, wherein the enchanted Knight had likewise a share, remembering the wrong done unto his wife, by the Traytor whom he had so friendly vsed in his house, the conceite of which ingratefull acte, presented him with many strange cogitations.

Early in the morning they all arose, and the Knightes Sister, accompanied with one of the Prince *Palladines* Squires, rode to the Castell where the Gentleman dwelt, to deliuer the message before determined. And finding him, sitting at the Castell gate, with two or thre of his seruants that attended on him: without vsing any courtesie or salutation, but with a stearne and angrie countenance, thus spake.

Well knowest thou, villayne as thou art, that violently thou didst carie away my Mothers wife, who lodged and entertained thee friendly in his house, wherefore I say to thee, that thou art the most vile and abiect creature living, hauing committed the greatest treason and dishonour, that euer was heard of a man toward his friend. A Knight

of Palladine of England. 22

Bright will I bring, that to thy beard shall testifie what I
hane said, by aduenturing his person in Combate against
thee: or if thou thinke it conuenient, two against two, or
three to three, so many will I bring hither before two
houres are expired. The Gentleman abashed to heare a
woman speake so brauely, she being accompanied but with
one Squire, thus replied. I beseech (Damosell) it is not
long since ye came from Paradise, for you are yet marue-
lous glorious, but I hope ere night to qualify your pride,
and him or them that dare bid me the Combate. And
where thou chargest me with detaining a Lady, who (as
thou sayest) is thy Brothers wife, here will I keepe her
still, and hence shall she not go, till I hane had my pleasure
on her. But to spend no time in prating with a foolish wo-
man, go fetch the three Knights thou threatnest me with
all, and they shall finde here thos other, whereof my selfe
will be one, say, we graunt them the Combate, and bid
them loke they come well provided, for all their wit and
strength I thinke will scant helpe them.

The Damosell and the Squire returned with this an-
swere to the Princes, who hauing heard the Gentlemans
misshap, presently mounted on horsebacke, and rode to-
ward the Castell.

In this time, the Gentleman went into the Castell to
his Brethren, and aduertised them of the Damosels chal-
lenge, whereupon, they immediately armed themselves, the
Gentleman causing twentie of his seruants to be secretly
ambushed, to succour him if his enemies were the stronger,
and if they could not take them prisoners, then to murder
them without any redemption.

By this time are the Princes and the enchanted
Bright come to the Castell, where they found the three
Brethren staying their coming, and without any fur-
ther speeches, they prepared to the carre, when Palladine
would haue encountred the Gentleman of the Castell, but
the enchanted Bright intreated him to the contrary,
saying,

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saying. Let me trie my fortune with him, good Sir Knight, for he it is that hath murdered me, and now shall I be sufficiently avenged on him. Palladine was well contented it should be so, and while the knight gave his horse the spurs to meete the Gentleman, he and Manteleo found his Brethren play: so that after they had bravelly broken their Lances, and fought a long and dangerous Combat with the sword, the Gentleman was throwne downe sore wounded, and his Brethren were both slaine outright. Now (though too late) rushed forth the ambushed servants, and they being twentie in number, set with such violence on the Princes and their Squires, as their horses were slaine under them, and themselves in very great danger of death, but that Lydico the Prince of Thracia, suddenly arrived there; for that day had he bene on hunting, and because the bordering Turkes did oftentimes invade the King his father, he seldom rode without armed knights in his companie. When he beheld so many against so few, he commanded his knights to assist the weaker side, so that the greater part of them were slaine, and the rest thinking to save their hurs, fled into the Castle, yet were they so narrowly pursued, as they could not drawe the bridge, but were all taken, and reserved in prison for a further punishment.

The two Damoels glad of this happie victorie, humbled themselves before the Prince Lydico, thanking him for this gracious assistance: the like did Palladine and Manteleo, confessing their lives preserved onely by his means. Afterward, he requested to knowe the cause of their fight, which the knights with effectually discovered, whereupon, they went to seek the Lady that was imprisoned, whome they could not tell where to finde, till a poore old Cardiner came unto them, saying, that the key of the dungeon where she remained, his master alway kept at a string fastened about his necke, not trusting any one to see her but himselfe, Lydico returning to the Gentleman,

man,

man, found that he had some life left in him, wherefore taking the key from about his necke, and causing his men to bring him into the Castell, that further iustice might be shewen on him for his offence, by the old Cardiner, they were brought to the Ladyes dungion, where they found her so spent with griefe, and her faire face so martired with great effuse of teares, as would haue moued a stony hart to pittie her. How ioyfull the knight was to see his Lady, how glad she likewise was to behold her husband, I leane to the opinion of long absent true louers: yet this was her chiefest comfort, that her husband enioyed her againe, free from any spot of dishonour, and though she had endured long miserie, yet could not the villaine abuse her chastitie. Lydisco sent the trayterous Gentleman to the king his father, and with him other of the chiefest offenders, with letters describing their notorious villaines, whereupon, they were drawne in pieces by wilde horses, as such a notorious offence full well deserved.

CHAP. XIII.

How the wife Orbicombe appeared to Palladine in his sleepe: and what talke she had with him.



Lydisco the Prince of Hungaria, hauing heard by the enchanted knight and the ladyes, the noble vertues of Palladine and Marteleo, remained still in the Castell with them, vsing them with verie kinde and princely courtesie, being sorie for certaine dangerous woundes they had receiued in fight, which he caused to be tended with carefull diligence.

The enchanted knight likewise told his Lady, the successe of his iourney into England, how he receiued the

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Swords of the wise Sorceresse, and how the two Princes (by drawing them) ended his enchantment: they having at his request travailed so farre, onely for her deliverance from the cruell Gentleman. Now thankfull she shewed her selfe for their honorable paines, her great care in curing their woundes, and readie service to supply all wants, declared the vertues of so good a minde. Needlesse were it to tell ye, how Lydisco procured from the King his father many presents of good will to the Princes, and dayly accompanied them with his owne person; as the men in whome he most of all delighted: I shall therefore retuale what happened to Palladine, while he attended the cure of his woundes in this Castell.

As one night the Prince lay soundly sleeping in his bed, the Lady that before had appeared to him, presented her selfe now to him againe, speaking to him in this manner. Know Sir Palladine, that I am a Pagan, named the wise Orbiconte, who through the affection thy vertues cause me beare thee, am come to aduertise thee, that I framed those two Swords, which the Knight enchanted brought to thee and Manteco, that you twaine might helpe him to recover his lost Lady. And because I haue fore-seen by my magique and hidden knowledge, that by thee I shall one day attaine to high estate of honoz: I will not conceale from thee, that the destinies haue reserved onely to thee, the atchivement of many great and braue enterprises, as also the finishing of rare adventures and enchantments, wherein thou shalt endure much paine and travaile.

Beside, I am to let thee understand, that fortune hath sorted thee out a Lady, who at this day is esteemed peerlesse in beautie, whome to finde, thou shalt trauaile many strange regions, with labour that will be long and troublesome: yet shalt thou still be protected by me, and comforted by the great fame thou shalt heare of her beautie, surpassing all the Princesses in the world. Begin the search of her so soone as thou canst possible, and thinke not my spee-

ches

of Palladine of England. 26

thes friuolous, for thou shalt finde them undoubtedly true. So banished away the wise Orbiconte, leauing the Prince in meruailous doubts, what this Pagan woman might be, that seemed to beare him so great affection. In the end, such deliberate aduise he tooke of her words, perswading himselfe of their truth and certaintie, as he concluded to seeke the Lady, the onely Phoenix among the fairest in beaultie. Of her immediately he became amorous, determining to depart from the Prince Manteco, because he would haue no competitour in his loue.

But before we passe any further, and to betwray the cause of this aduertisement by the wise Orbiconte, you must note, that she was sister to the King of *Aquile*, having been espoused to a Duke, one of the greatest Lords in that Realme, by whome she had three faire Daughters. All her life time she spent in the superstitious sciences of *Agromantie* and *Geomancies*, and casting the reuolution of her daughters natiuitie, she found by her arte, that if the Prince Palladine might be brought into that Countrey, each of her daughters should haue a sonne by him, that should in chualrie surpasse all the Knights of their time; the one of them being destined to be an Emperour, and the other two to be Kings of wonderfull possessions.

Now to compasse the meane, whereby Palladine might be brought to this farre distant Countrey, you must likewise note, that the King of *Aquile*, brother to Orbiconte, had the fairest daughter that euer was sene: by which occasion, this enchauntresse appeared to the Prince, inciting him to follow the search of the fairest Lady in the world, promising him to enioy this rare virgin named Nonparelia. And when he should be thus brought into that Countrey, she deuised to exercise her arte in such sort, as he should haue the honor of her daughters, to the ende she might expect the fortune of the children, who were appointed to so high dignities. Resolued on this intent, she betooke her selfe to dwell among the mountains, where she

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framed the two enchanted Swords, as the first motion to draw Palladine toward *Aquila*, where at the time appointed he shall arrive.

But now he is with the Prince Lydisco at the Castell, where he and Manteleo having their woundes healed, the enchanted knight (with his Lady and Sister) returned to their owne home: the vision of wise Orbiconte calleth Palladine thence, and saine would Manteleo returne toward *England*, because he lived by the onely remembrance of his mistresse Marcelina, so comming to Lydisco, Palladine thus began.

Alas the Prince, your care for our health hath exceeded our deserts, yet we remaine with humble dutie to make requitall: having accomplished our promise to the enchanted knight, who with his Lady and friends are safely where they would be, we craue licence for our departure to our Countries, where our parents expect our returning continually.

Many gracious speeches were uttered by the Prince, and many liberall and bountifull promises, onely to cause them goe with him to the King his Fathers Court: but all was to no purpose, they promised to visit the King at more convenient leisure, because very urgent occasions did now hasten their departure.

When Lydisco sawe he could not perswade them, he gave to each of them a verie sumptuous armour, and foure of the best horses in his stable, with diuers other gifts of inestimable value: so after many courtesies and kind embracings, Palladine and Manteleo set forward on their iourney, and Lydisco having seized the Castell to the King his Fathers use, on the next day following rode to the Court, where he acquainted the King with al that had happened.

The Princes having ridden most part of the day, came at length to a faire fountaine, standing in a fresh coole shadowe of trees, where they alighted, minding to dine with

of Palladine of England. 27

with such prouision as their Squires had brought with them. Afterward, they lay downe in the shade to sleepe a little, which Manteleo and the Squires did very soundly: but Palladine not able to forget the words of the wise Orbiconte, arose, and being loth to trouble them that slept, toke his helmet and his sword, intending to walke among the trees till they awaked. He had not gone from his companie the space of halfe a bow shote, but he espied a goodly plaine, in the middelt whereof stode a faire pavillion, with two or thre bundles of Launces erected at the entrance. Maruailling what the meaning hereof might be, he kept himselfe still hid among the trees, to see if any one would come in or out of the Tent. At length, he beheld come riding on the plaine, two Knightes with a Damosell that bare a goodly Shield, which with the beames of the Sun, dazeled the eyes of the beholders. These two Knightes and the Damosell would have passed the Tent, but he espied one came suddenly forth, and stayd them, saying. You may not passe by (Gentlemen) so easily, you are well armed so; the triall of the Lancer: you must therefore make some prooue in this place of your chivalrie, else must you leaue your Armour and Weapons behinde you. And first of all, you Damosell must deliuer me the Shield you carry, so; it liketh me well, and I shall best deserue it. I may not do so, answered the Damosell, because you are not the man it is sent vnto, and so; whome it was purposely made. Whether I be he or no, quoth the Knight of the Tent, haue it I will: with which words he offered to take it violently from her, but the two Knightes stayd him with these speeches.

Sir Knight, we neyther refuse the Ioust or Combats with thee, but in presuming to take the Shield perforce from the Damosell, we iudge it rather the behauiour of a thiefe and robber, then sitting with the credit of a Gentleman, or one that by brauerie of minde, desires to trie the courage of Knightes errant. Are you offended, quoth the

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Knicht of the Tent, at any thing I haue sayd or done: be-
leue me, I will haue the Shield, and cause you to repent
your audacious folly. Come forth, quoth he to his Knights
in the Tent, and teach these lustie companions a little bet-
ter dutie. Presently issued forth two knights on horse-
backe, and couthing their Lances, they encountred them
that defended the Damosell, who threw them from their
Saddles with such violence, as they lay not able to stirre
any limme. Two more came forth of the Tent, and fol-
lowed their companions in fortune, whereat the Knight
was so angrie, as he mounted on horsebacke himselfe, cal-
ling fire more forth to take part with him. See my friends
quoth he, foure of our men are slaine, or in great dan-
ger, let vs alltogether run on these villaines that so vsed
them, for man to man I see they are strongest; such there-
fore as loue me, follow me. So by their furious assault, the
two knights were dismounted, and by the time the other
had finished their course, they drew their Swords, and
buckling on their Shields, came with resolute courage to
morte their enemies. Right sorrowfull was the Damosell
to see the knights that defended her cause, in such dan-
ger: but Palladine beholding the valour of the twayne,
and the cowardly villaine of the other, came forth of the
wood, and taking part with them so much wronged, in
short time layde foure of them breathlesse on the ground.
The other three would gladly haue giuen ouer sight, but
Palladine and the Damosels knights layde on such
loades, as two more were sent to accompany theyr fel-
lowes, the third (to saue his life) yelded to their mer-
cie.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

How *Manteleo* found *Palladine*, with the two *Knights*, and the *Damosell*, that brought the *Sheeld* from the wife *Orbicone*.



At the tyme of this sharpe skirmish, the Prince *Manteleo* awaked, and missing his companion *Palladine*, called the *Squires*, who were no lesse amazed at the absence of their master, but seeing his horse and *Launce* there, they imagined he could not be strayed verie farre. As they walked into the wood to seek him, they heard the clashing of weapons, and entring on the plaine, they espied *Palladine* with the two *Brightes* and the *Damosell*, and a man kneeling on his knees before him, craving pardon for his life.

Manteleo being glad he had found his friend, came to him with merrie and cheerefull countenance: when the two *Knights* seeing his face, immediatly knew him, and casting downe their helmes, came and embraced him, saying: How highly are we beholding to the vertuous Prince *Palladine*, without whose assistance our liues had perished: *Palladine* knowing them to be *Durandell* of *Clene*, and *Orliman* of *Flaunders*, of whose chivalrie he had heard much commendation, embraced them with marvellous affection, the like did *Manteleo*, and no small gratulations were entercoursed betwene these foure Princes.

When the *Damosell* heard the name of *Palladine*, she alighted from her *Palfrey*, and with humble reuerence on her knee, thus spake to him.

Wapple and successfull Knight, whose vertues are renowned through the wide world, the wife *Orbicone* hath sent

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sent you this Shield, commending her selfe dutifully to your good grace, intreating you to forsake your companie awhile, and with me to go visit her that honors you.

Palladine hearing her speake of the wise Orbiconte, who had so often appeared to him in visions, was as ioyfull, as Manteleo and the other were sorrowfull, to leaue the companie of him they loued so well : but hee hauing taken the Shield, returned this aunswere to the Damosell.

Faire friend, I thanke your mistresse and you like wise, promising to goe with ye whether you please, though loth I am to forsake the companie of these gentle Princes : but seeing it liketh the Lady Orbiconte it should be so, I obey her commaund right willingly, hoping to see my good friends againe ere it be long.

As Palladine thus spake, his couller altered very pale and wanne, whereby the Damosell iudged that he was wounded, wherefore she said : I perceiue (my Lord) you are scant well, let vs enter this Tent I pray ye, where you shall be vnarmed, and these knights likewise, that I may see what wounds you haue receiued : for my Lady Orbiconte gaue me at my departure from her, a vore of most pretious and arteficiall ointment. So that let your wounds be how dangerous soeuer, in four and twentie houres I will awarrant they shall be perfectly healed. Upon this aduise they entred the Tent, where when they were vnarmed, the Damosell verie cunningly dressed their wounds, finding these of Orliuan and Durandell to be most doubtful, yet her comforttable speeches made them expect speedie recoverie. Afterward, they sate downe to refresh themselves, with such viands as they found there readie in the Tent : and Palladine calling for the prisoner, said : knight, if thou desire the safetie of thine owne life, tell me without fabling, what the knight was that first proffered to take the Shield from the Damosell : and upon what occasion you kept the passage here, to forbid the course of knights errant.

errant. For will I Sir (quoth the Knight) hide one iote of the truthe from you.

Knowe then, that he which would haue taken the Sheld from the Damosell, was brother to a Gentleman, who not long since (by the Kings commaundement) was put to a most shamefull death, for that vniustly he detayned a Knightes wife: to whose Castell, came two strange Knightes, and by the ayde of Lydisco, Prince of *Hungaria*, they took the Gentleman sore wounded, who was afterward executed, slew many of his seruants, as also his two brethren, deliuering the Lady to her husband againe, who now liue in quiet in their owne Castell.

This Knight that stroue for the Sheld, was likewise brother to that Gentleman, who hearing the misfortune of his brethren, vowed to take vengeance on those two Knightes, by whose meanes, he was now left friendlesse in the world. Upon this determination, heere caused he his pavillion to be erected, sending his espials abroad, to allure all Knightes by this passage, hoping at length to finde those twayne, which I thinke he imagined to be they that conducted the Damosell: because he commaunded vs all to assaile them, but whether they be the same or no, he is now greatly deceiued of his hope, and thus haue you heard the verie truthe of our being here. Thanks be to heauen, sayd the Prince Palladine, that kept vs out of this danger, for if we had passed this way, we had either bene slaine or taken by these vile minded men. But my hazard was greatest, quoth the Damosell, had I not met with these two noble Knightes, who (in my defence) thrust their owne liues into question. Damosell answered Durandell of *Cleu*, we haue done no more then our dutie, and what all true Knightes are swoyne vnto.

After they had stayed so long as them pleased, they rode to a Towne not farre distant thence, leauing the Knight to prouide buriall for his companions, and help for such as yet remained alive; swearing him, neuer after to

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be serued in any such bad action. At this Tolume, they abode two or thre dayes, to furnish themselves of what they wanted, as also to repaire their Armour, which was much brused. At length, the Damosell tooke Palladine aside, framing her speeches to him in this manner. My Lord, seeing you finde your selfe in good estate of health, let me intreate ye to bid your freends adieu, that early in the morning we may depart to the place whether my Lady commaunded me to conduct ye, because you must be assistant to such a one, as shall hereafter doe very much for you. Damosell quoth Palladine, presently shall you see me bid them farewell, for great is my affection toward your mistresse seruice, seeing she fauours the man so much she neuer saue. Then turning to the thre Princes, he sayd. My noble companions, you knowe my promise to this Damosell, to follow her whither she shall guide me: now is she unfortunate for my departure, wherefore let me intreate ye not to be offended, if early in the morning I take my leave, assuring you, that neuer shall I forget your manifold courtesies. And let my solempne promise perswade you, that these earnest affaires once dispatched, to you will I presently shape my course, meane while, commaund me as your frendly seruant.

My Lord, answered Manteleo, albeit this separation is gracious to vs, yet seeing it a cause concerning your honour, and may aduantage some distressed person, keep your promise, right patiently shall we beare your absence, hoping to see you shortly in *England* at the King your fathers Court, for thither shall we presently direct our iourney. Palladine hauing intreated them, to doe his humble dutie to the King his father, to the Quene likewise, and his two Sisters, embraced them all thre right louingly, each one with teares shewing their grasse of departure. Like courteous farewell tooke they of the Damosell, who gaue them many thanks for their frendly succour, and so each one entring their chamber for that night, Lycelio the Squire

of Palladine of England. 30

Squire to Palladine, prepared all things readie for his maister, who determined to be on horsebacke by breake of day.

CHAP. XV.

¶ How Palladine went with the Damosell that came from the wife Orbiconte, and Mantelo, Durandell and Orli-
madi trauayled tow. rd England, and were seperated from each other by a strange aduenture.



Early in the morning, Palladine, Ly-
celio, and the Damosell set forth
on their journey, directing their
course to the Realmes of Ireland, lea-
ving the three Princes soundly slee-
ping, who the same day rode to-
ward England, without finding any
adventure on land or Sea weather
the rehearsal. After they had re-
freshed themselves three or foure daies at *Doner*, a Towne
that stands on the Sea coast of England, they concluded to
ride to London, where they heard the King as then kept
his Court. When they had ridden eight or ten miles, they
sawe coming forth of a Forrest two poore men, all be-
smeared with blood, and verie sore wounded, wherupon,
they imagined that some thieves had thus viled them, and
therefore rode toward them to vnderstand the cause.
Good Gentleman, cried one of them so wounded, for Gods
sake helpe vs. Of whence are ye? sayd the Prince Man-
teleo. We are Sir, quoth the poore man, of *Bohemia*, tra-
uailing from the King of *Englands* Court home againe:
and to his Maiestie were we sent with three yong Lions,
which two knightes (travailing through our Countrey)
gave vs charge to carie thither. And as we came through
this wood, three thieves suddenly set upon vs, who wound-
ed vs as you see, took the money from vs we receyued of
the

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the King, and haue slaine two of our companions.

Manteleo remembering the poore men, how Palladine and he had sent them with the Lions: was meruailous sorie to see them so misused, demanding if the thornes were on horsebacke or on foote. The poore men answered, that they were on foote, and could not (as yet) be gone verie farre. Without any further speeches, Manteleo and his Squire galloped one way, and Durandell with Orliman an other way, hoping to compassse the thornes, that they should not escape. One of them Manteleo espied running, with the sword still in his hand all bloodie: Stay villaine, quoth he, for thou canst not escape so easily. The thiefe seeing he could not saue his life by flight, got him to a tree, which he could not climbe so sone, but the Prince gaue him a quittance for his life. As he fell downe to the ground, the bag of money tumbled out of his bosome, when the Squire alighting, & giuing it to his maister, returned to the place where he left the poore men, saying. Hold here (my friends) your money againe, and feare not him that tooke it from ye, for I haue made him sure for following ye any further: if the knightes that were with me finde his fellows, I doubt not but they will serue them as I haue done. Many thanks did they returne the Prince for this great gentlenesse, bringing him to their other companions. The one of them hauing some life left in him, had settled himselfe against a tree, being the man that undertooke the carriage of the Lions. By many signes he shewed that he knew the Prince, as also how graciously the King had vsed him: but no hope of life was left in him, for his inward bleeding presently strangled him. The Prince willed the poore men goe to the next towne, where their wounds might be bound vp, and they might prouide buriall for the other two: meane while, he with his Squire rode to seeke Durandell and Orliman, who hauing at length slaine the other two thornes, had strayed so farre in such vnrequented wayes, as they knew not how to returne

turne to finde Manteleo. but tooke their iourney straight to London. where they were in god hope to meeete with him.

The King Milanor hearing of their arriuall, entertayned them very honorably; the like did the Quene and her daughters, to whome they rehearsed the knightly deedes of Palladine and Manteleo, the manner how they were separated, and how the thraues had vsed the poore men of Bohemia: yet the Prince Manteleo (as they thought) would not be long thence, because they parted so lately with him. Glad was the King of these tidings, especially Marcelina, whose life was prolonged by the onely hope of her loue.

As so; Manteleo. after he had long sought fo; Durandell and Orliman, yet neyther could finde them, or heare any tidings of them: he returned to the towne whither he sent the poore men, and there tooke order fo; the healing of their woundes.

On the morrow as he rode toward London, he espied foure knightes Combatting against two, whereupon, he went to helpe the two knightes, and in the end, compelled the foure to yeld. The two knightes were the Princes of Norgalles and Scots, to wit, Landastines and Simprinell, the quarrell growing through chollerick speeches, and by the means of Manteleo pacified, each shaking hands together as louers and frends. Greatly meruailed Manteleo to meeete Landastines and Simprinell there, considering at his departure he left them at the Court, highly fauoured of the King and his Nobilitie: but thus it fell out.

After that Palladine and Manteleo were departed with the enchaunted knight, the Prince Landastines fauoured of the King Milanor, began to affect the Princesse Florea: who seeing her Sister provided of a louer, thought she would not leade Apes in Hell, and therefore entertayned Landastines as her knight and seruant. He glorying in his honorable conquest, and by sollemne vowes assured her of his permanent constancie, craved licence of his faire mi-

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freese, with Simprinell to goe view the pleasures of *England*, the goodly Cities and well fortified Castels, promising to returne within a moneth againe. And as they were iourning backe to the Court, Mantelco found them as you haue heard, and now they all three are gone to *London*: where, to make any ceremonious discourse of their entertainment, would hinder ye from matter of greater moment, and too long shall Palladine be left vnheard of. Let it then suffice ye, the King is so; his Sonne is not returned, yet perswaded by Mantelco of his speedie presence: ioyning withall, that a King whose life was spent in affaires of highest consequence, would be desirous that his Sonne should imitate his vertues. As for Marcelina and Florea, such as haue felt the weight of affection, and know that absent louers make a heauen of their meeting: such I thinke will here allow, that friends so intirely combined together, would hardly now fall out with one another. If then their silent passionate desires, sorted out time and place conuenient, where gracious loue might fauour their endeouours, and quench the furie of so violent impressions: leaue them contented with their fortunate successe, Mantelco with his mistresse Marcelina, and Landastines with his faire Goddesse Florea, because we must now returne to the cheefe person in our Historie, and to the Damosell of the wise Orbiconce.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVI.

¶ How the Prince *Palladine* was conducted to the Realme of *Dace*, by the Damosell of *Orbicone* that brought him the Sheeld: and how he reskewed a Knight that was caried to prison.



Y I remember, that the Damosell sent from the wise *Orbicone*, caused *Palladine* to leaue *Manteleo*, *Durandell* of *Cleue* and *Orliman* of *Flaunders*, and hauing trauailed long in hir company, at length they entred the Realme of *Dace*, beginning the tyme with many discourses, as concerning her mistresse, where among, he requested to know whome he should succore. My Lord, quoth she, I hope this day your selfe shall see the man, a knight of high and especiall desert, who will not forget your honorable paines, in deliuering him from cruell death, or perpetuall imprisonment.

As they thus deuised togeather, the Damosell alighting from her *Palfrey*, hearing the voyce of men and neighing of horses, she desired the Prince to shroud himselfe in secret, least he should be espied by any in the Castell. At length, they sawe foure knightes and their squires before the Castell, and in the midst of them a man, haning his armes pinniond behind him, and his legs bound vnder his horse belly. Behold Sir, said the Damosell, this is the man, of whome I told ye, being detained prisoner by these foure knightes, now try your fortune in reskewing him: so if they get him once within the Castell, he shall be put to a most cruell death. *Palladine* immediately mounted on horsebacke, and drawing his sword, without vsing any speeches to the knightes, gaue one of them such a stroke in the

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the head, as he cleat his scull to the verie teeth. The other three set on him all at once, and two of them he tumbled headlong from their horses: the third would haue fled into the Castell, but the Prince gaue him such a wound betwene the head and the shoulders, as he fell downe dead to the ground. In this while, the Damosell and Lycelio vnbound the Knight, who taking a Sword and Sheld belonging to one of the slaine, came to assist Palladine, least any other should come forth of the Castell to resist him.

When the Porter sawe the Prince enter the Castell, and with him the Knight, whome his maisters Sommes were sent to kill, or bring thither prisoner, he ranne by the staires into the Hall, crying: murther, murther, to armes Gentlemen, for we are all betrayed.

At this fearefull cry, the Lord of the Castell being an auncient man, went to the window ouer the gate, and seeing his Sonne and seruants lying on the ground, eyther slaine, or in no better case: he fell in a swoone, and had not one of his Gentlemen beue by to helpe him, he neuer had recovered life againe. But being come to himselfe, he with seauen more were presently armed, and vnderstanding by the Porter, that but three men kept the Castell gate, he with his people came downe into the Court, and like a Lion enraged, smote at Palladine, saying: Villaine, well mayst thou curse thy coming hither to murther my Sommes, both thou and the Traytor: in thy company shall dearly abide it. Very sharply did they beset the Prince, his Squire Lycelio and the Knight: yet in the end, they vanquished all but two, who submitted themselves and called for mercie: for which good fortune, the Knight humbly thanked Palladine. who calling the Damosell into the Castell, because feare made her tary still without, made fast the gate, and went by into a faire chamber, where they were vnaarmed, and their wounds bound vp. And while prouision was making for their Supper, the Prince treated the Knight to tell the occasion why he was brought

brought thither so bound and misused.

Worthie Sir, answered the Knight, a true discourse shall I make of all my trouble, and thus it is.

The Lord of this place, the auncient man whome you first ouercame in the Court, had three Dornes, one where of I found about a moneth since in a little Warren near to my house, which is distant hence not past a mile: and thither had he allured a yong mayden, the daughter to a poore tenaunt of mine, where villainously he sought to dishonour her. By selfe (by good hap) walking that way, beheld the poore virgin before him on her knees, he hauing his Sword drawne in his hand, threatening therewith to cut her throate, if she would not accomplish his unlawfull desire.

When I sawe this uncouth spectacle, and that the poore mayden was out of breath, with strugling and strining to defend her chastitie, I came to him, and friendly intreated him to forbear that bad minde: but he immediatly, without vsing any words better or worse, lest the mayden, and with his Sword began to assaile me, where doubtlesse I had bene murdered, had I not bene provided for mine owne defence: yet did I make such good shift with him, as he was fayne to submit himselfe to my merrie, which I was contented to graunt him, vpon promise, that he would neuer offer the like vile attempt, not fitting the name of a Gentleman, who rather ought to defend the chastitie of virgins. But the forsworne wretch kept not his promise with me, for so soone as I had left him, he ran after the poore mayden againe, who thought to saue her selfe by flight to her Fathers house, and in despight that he was vanquished by me, or what else I knowe not, he stabd her to the heart with his dagger. I hearing her pitifull cry when the wound was giuen, ran after the murderer, who turned againe valiantly to resist me: but I handled him in such sort, as he accompanied the poore mayden in death. A Lackey that attended on this lubricious villayne, seeing his mayster had giuen his last farewell to the world, im-

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mediatly caryed the newes to the Lord his father, and his other two Brethren, whom you slew without the gate. The Brethren made sollemne promise to their father, that they would take the most cruell vengeance on me as could be deuised, alwayting opportunitie to execute theyr bloodie intents; and this day as I was walking in my garden, hauing no other defence then as you see me in my doublet, they layd violent hands on me, binding me on the ylle as you found me, and but for you, God knowes how they meant to haue vsed me.

Sir Knight, quoth Palladine, thanke God for your deliuerance, and next to him the wise Lady Orbiconte, who sent this Damosell to conduct me hither for your succour.

Ah my good Lord, answered the Knight, often haue I heard of that worthy woman, who (as I vnderstand) is Sister to the King of *Aquilea*, a maruailous louer of Knightes vertuous and valiant: I promise ye right soone will I go giue her thanks for this exceeding fauour.

Palladine hearing him speake of *Aquilea*, remembred the letters engraue on his sword, for which cause, he determined to trauaile thither, to finde the wise Orbiconte, that she might shew him the Lady, whereof in his sleepe she did aduertise him. Upon this resolution, they sat downe to meate, and after the Tables were withdrawn, the Damosell thus spake.

Sir Knight, you haue accomplished the promise you made me, for which I thanke ye, and will make report thereof to my Lady and mistresse, to whome I must with all dilligence returne, being assured of this Knightes safetie: wherefoze I humbly take my leave, because I meane to be gone very early in the morning. Palladine soze she would be gone so soone, sayd: If it like ye faire Damosell, I will conduct ye on your way for your Ladys sake, who beares me such affection without any desert. My Lord, quoth she, I hartely thanke ye, but my Lady commaunded me to returne alone, assuring me to escape on the way without

without any disturbance: and albeit she had not so charged me, yet should ye not by my means traualle so sore, for your wounds are yet not so dally withall; but I will leaue an vnguent with your Squire, that shall right soon recover them from danger. Seeing then (sayd Palladine) that my companie is needlesse, let me intreate ye to commend me to your mistresse, to whome (while I liue) I shall remaine an affectionate seruant and knight. And to the end you may remember me: and in requittall of the good Sheld you brought me, weare this chayne of gold for my sake, and forget not my humble dutie to the Lady Orbiconte. The Damosell receiuing the chayne, toke her leaue of him and the knight, and on the morrow rode toward *Aquile*, leauing Palladine with the knight, who brought the Prince to his owne Castell, shewing him the place where the incontinent villaine murdered the yong virgin.

CHAP. XVII.

¶ How the Prince *Palladine* traouailing toward *Aquile*, was aduertised of the beaurie of *Brifilda*; Duchesse of *Bulgaria*, for whose loue, *Dardalon* the proud mayntayned ioustes against all commers: and of the cruell Combate betweene him and *Palladine*.



Palladine remained with the knight till his wounds were healed; being entertained merraylous nobly, and setting on his iourney toward *Aquile*: on the frontiers of *Dace*, he met an armed knight, with a Squire bearing his Helmet and Launce, whome after he had saluted, he requested to knowe whether he traauiled. I go Sir (answered the knight) to *Bulgaria*, to make proofe of my fortune against a strong and puissant champion,

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champion, who maintaineth the Joust against all that come; so, the loue of the Duchesse Brisalda, esteemed the fairest Danicelle in the world, being yet scant senent and paces of age. I like well his attempt, said Palladine, what, soeuer he be: but knowe ye not how he is called? Dardalon the proud, men name him (quoth the Knight) and fithly both that surname agree with him, so; he is one of the most vaine glorious men that ever was heard of, beside, excelling in crueltie to knightes that deale with him, so; if he vanquish any one, he neuer pardons him, no, though he yeld himselfe to his mercie. Beloue me, said Palladine, small commendation gets he thereby, being rather esteemed a coward, then valiant: so; he vseth such crueltie, to terrify those as shall afterward deale with him. But the enterprises of Tourneys for the loue of Ladies, should not extend to such extremitie, but rather for hono; and fame onely: yea, though to a mortall enemy, mercy should be giuen him when he yeldeth himselfe. The brute beastes shew greater humanitie, as we may reade in examples, of Lyons, Beares, Dogs, and diuers other, who cease from rage and furie on a yelding pray. It is necessarie then, answered the Knight, that such men should haue such measure serued them, and no greater mercie ought they to haue, then themselues tofore haue shewed to other: as for my selfe, if fortune fauour me against him, he shall find as little pittie as he hath giuen. By my Sword (quoth the Prince) I so desire to see that cruell Knight, as I will beare ye companie, so you please to accept thereof: so; perhaps the great villaine is some Deuill, and then it is necessarie he should be well conured. Great hono; and pleasure, quoth the Knight, shall you herein doe me, so; I desire nothing more then companie. So leauing the marches of Dace, they tooke Shipping on Danubium, and coasting Valachia, entred Bulgaria, landing at the Cite of Varna, where Dardalon kept his Jousts and Triumphs. But the Duchesse Brisalda tooke small pleasure in his labours, so; as
he

he was a man of huge and monstrous stature, so was he misshapen, and of ougly countenance, yet by his prowesse he imagined to gaine her loue: wherein he was greatly deceived, albeit the feare of his mightie kinred, chæfely of a Giant that was his Cousin, made the poore Lady giue him good looks, because by rigour he held the whole countrey in awe.

Palladine and the Knight being come on shore, went presently to the place where the Foultes were kept: and as they entred the throng, they sawe that Dardalon had euen then ouercome a Knight, who kneeling on his knees, cryed: I confesse my selfe vanquished, I yeld, I yeld. But Dardalon feigning he heard him not, nor the Princesse who called to saue his life, because the Knight was nere allyed to her: smote his head from his shoulders, shewing it in great brauerie to the Duchesse.

Palladine seeing the monstrous crueltie of this huge villaine, could stay no longer, but stepping to him, sayd. Dardalon, I neuer saw thee before this instant, when I beheld thee to shew horrible crueltie, putting the Knight to death that yelded himselfe vanquished: had it bene but for the Ladies sake. Who called to thee to saue his life, methinks of dutie thou shouldest haue spared him, and were it not I see thee wounded, thou shouldest perceiue I dare iustify my words. Dardalon beholding Palladine without his helmet, and so yong in yeeres, scoffingly thus answered. Alas good Gentleman, didst thou neuer see me before? I thinke thou wilt say thou seest me too soone: as for any wound I haue, it cannot hinder me from correcting such a saucy companion. Without any more words they mounted on horsebacke, and Dardalon taking a verie strong Launce, thought to giue the Prince an unhappy welcome: but he sawe more sure then he expected, and but that himselfe caught hold by his horse mayne, he had bene sent to fetch an errand on the ground. A long and dangerous Combate was fought betwene them, the Prince many times

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he was a man of huge and monstrous stature, so was he mishapen, and of ougly countenance, yet by his prowllesse he imagined to gaine her loue: wherein he was greatly deceived, albeit the feare of his mightie kinred, chiefly of a Giant that was his Cousin, made the poore Lady giue him good looks, because by rigour he held the whole countrey in awe.

Palladine and the Knight being come on shore, went presently to the place where the Ioustes were kept: and as they entred the throng, they sawe that Dardalon had euen then overcome a knight, who knaeling on his knees, cryed: I confesse my selfe vanquished, I yeld, I yeld. But Dardalon feigning he heard him not, nor the Princesse who called to saue his life, because the knight was nere allyed to her: smote his head from his shoulders, shewing it in great brauerie to the Duchesse.

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times in danger, but worthely escaping, and in the end so wearied his monstrous enemy, as he got him downe vpon his backe. Then taking off his helmet, looked to the Duchesse Brisalda, if she would haue his life preserued, but seeing that neither she or any of the Ladies made signe for it, he took off his head, to the great ioy of all the standers by: except such as were allyed to Dardalon, who presently drew their weapons to reuenge his death, but other knightes stept in to assist the Prince, so that not one of them escaped aliue, yet Palladine and his company receiued no wounds of danger. The Duchesse noting the valiant prowesse of a knight so yong and lowly, would faine knowe of whence he was, wherefore causing the Ioustices to end for that day, she sent to intreate him come lodge in her Pallace, where her Chirurgions should haue care of his wounds. Which courteous offer the Prince accepted, not so much for the daunger of his hurts, as for his desire to be fauoured of the Duchesse, whome he imagined the fairest that euer he sawe. Then was he conducted by two Gentlemen into one of the seemeliest Chambers in the Pallace, where he was vnarmed, and his wounds visited by the Chirurgions attending on the Duchesse, who sent him a faire night mantle of blew sattin, embroidered with gold, and furred with martins, for which most humbly he thanked her, carrying good opinion to enioy her loue, so he could compasse the meane to speake with her. For he imagined this to be the Lady, of whome the wise Orbi-comie had foretold him, and for whose loue he should passe many dangers, as now he had done against the prowde Dardalon.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVIII.

¶ How the Duchesse *Brisalda* came to see *Palladine*, what speeches they had together: and how he slew the Giant *Brandidoll*, Cousin to *Dardalon* the prowde.



Brisalda the yong beautifull Duchesse, to whom the invincible God had given a lively attaint of love to the Prince Palladine, determined to go see him in his chamber, to understand of his health, and in such sort to perswade him, as he should still remaine in her Court. So clothing her selfe in most sumptuous garments, and being attended on by her wayting Ladies, she went to the Princes lodging: and after two or three gracious courtesies passed betwene them, she said, Sir Knight, right welcome are ye to our Court, command me, or any thing else heere to your liking: for so much do I account my selfe indebted to you, having slayne the cruell and proud Dardalon, as while I live, I shall never returne sufficient recompence. The Prince falling on his knee, and kissing her faire white hand, thus answered. If I have done any thing (Madame) that contents you, I am very glad thereof, thanking the God of heauen that favoured me in the attempt, and if in ought else I can do ye any service, till the latest houre of death will I willingly imploy my selfe. *Brisalda*, who was (as it were) ravished with contemplating his beautie, tooke him by the hand, and causing him to arise, sayd: With all my heart (gentle Sir) I thank ye, and accept your offer so frendly made: for I greatly doubt ere long I shall neede your assistance, against the Giant *Brandidoll*, Cousin to him whome you have slaine, for no sooner shall he heare of his death,

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death, but hither will he come, and accuse me as author thereof, because Dardalon being enamoured of me, ordered this Journey, thinking to espouse me either by force or by love. In this did Brandidoll promise his aid, and divers other of their faction as bad as they, many of them being now slaine, which so contents me, as nothing can do more. And were I as well rid of cruell Brandidoll, hence forth should I live in peace, without feare or suspicion of any one: for when the mightie enemies are quailed, the meaner dare not presume to stirre.

Madame, quoth Palladine, perswade your selfe in this, that in respect of your innocencie, God will not suffer you to take any wrong, but that your enemies shall worke their owne confusion. Longer they would have continued in talk, but that the Gentleman Tisler gaue warning of dinner: wherefore the Duchesse went and sate downe at the Table, Palladine sitting inst opposite to her, who took so great pleasure in hearing him speake, as she had no mind to eate or drinke. All which Palladine heedfully noted, and God knowes how well it liked him, for if the one were passionate in love, you may think y other was in the same predicament. Oftentimes would they thicke such wounding lookes on each other, as neither had power to speake a word: but to coner this alteration, the Prince feigned to listen to the consort of musique, which played all dinner time marvellous sweetly. The Tables withdrawn, she took him by the hand, and caused him to sit downe in a chaire by her, while many young Lords and Ladies daunced after that Countrey manner. You may not daunce Sir, quoth she, because our Chirurgions doe thinke it hurtfull for your woundes: beside, rest is verie needfull for you, in respect of the rough combat you had with Dardalon, whome to your great honor you worthely conquered. For any thing I have done, swarte Madame (quoth he) let the credit thereof remaine to your selfe: and thinke me as readie to doe you service, as he that is most
so;ward

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forward among your servants, of which number I desire
 ye to accept me as one. Unhappily were it good knight,
 quoth she, to account of you as my seruāt, but if you please
 to stay in this Cuntry, you shall perceiue by my endeouours
 hereafter, that I both honor and reuerence such men as
 you are. As she would haue proceeded further, her Couer-
 nesse came, and said, it was time she should resort to her
 Chamber: whereupon they parted, not without sufficient
 shewes on either side, that betwene them was a sym-
 pathie of affection. What severall afflictions they endured
 in absence, let them imagine, who haue no comfort but in
 the presence of their favourite. As for the Duchesse, she on
 the morrow sent the Prince a rich Diamond by one of her
 Ladies, with this message, & it was her determined it w-
 ell to the best combatant, and therefore his due, as hauing
 deserved it beyond all other. Palladine receiued it verie
 thankfully, returning this answer by the Lady, that in
 requitall of that gentle gift, he would that day enter the
 Lises, and against all comers maintaine the beautie of
 the Duchesse. As for his wounds, Lycelio had annointed
 them with the precious vnguent, which the Damosell
 brought from the wise Orbiconte, so that they were verie
 soundly healed. For ioy of this answer, the Duchesse
 caused a goodly Scaffold to be erected, whereon, she and
 her Ladies would stand to see the Tousts: and at each end
 of the Lises, were sumptuous Trophies curiously placed,
 decked with diuers impresees and mottos of loue, in artifi-
 ciall Tables hanging thereon.

While Palladine and the other Lords were arming
 themselves, he was aduertised of an other knight new
 entred the field, who was the Prince Allian of Ireland, a
 young, brave and gallant knight at armes, one that was
 highly affected to the Duchesse Brisolda.

So soone as he was entred the Lises, he was encoun-
 tred by a Horse knight unknowne, who was dismounted
 at the first course: the like success had eight or ten more,

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which Palladine perceiuing, he gaue his horse the spurs against this lustie champion, lusting him halfe a fote in height from his saddle. And as they were taking new Launces for the second race, there entred a mightie man, armed cap a pe, who furiously said, Where is the villaine that slew my Cousin Dardalon? by the great God, this day will I giue his flesh to the dogs, and hers likewise that was the cause thereof. Of pointing to the yong Duchesse Brisfalda. And because he had heard that a yong knight did his kinsman to death, he ranne in a rage on the Prince Alban of Ireland, giuing him such a stroke on the head with his great Demitarie, as the gentle Alban fell beside his horse.

Palladine thinking this to be Brandidoll, and seeing him ready to smite off the Princes head, ranne to him, saying: It is with me that thou must deale, I slew thy Cousin Dardalon, as his villainie and crueltie well deserued. Brandidoll without making any answer, left the Prince of Ireland, and ioyned with Palladine, when continued betwene them a long and terrible combat. Each one verily expected Palladines death, such was the great oddes betwene him and his enemy: but so happily it fell out in the ende, that Brandidoll by treading on the trunchion of a Launce, fell downe backward, when the Prince taking his aduantage, got sure hold of him, and smote off his head. For ioy of this victorie, the Trompets cherefully sounded, and the Duchesse descending from the Scaffold, commaunded the Fousles to ceasse for that day, and coming to the Prince, gaue him many thanks, in that he had deliuered her from two such cruell enemies, who sought the subuersion and spoile of her hono^r. With meruailous signes of ioy they returned to the Pallace, where Palladine was immediatly brought to his chamber and such wounds as he had receiued in fight, were dilligently regarded by the Duchesse Chirurgions. Each day would she duly come to see him, and vnderstanding that he was donne to the

King of *England*, practised how to unite her selfe with him in marriage. And as an earnest of her perfect loue, she permitted him to gather that daintie flower, which many had with long pursuite laboured for: he not refusing so braue a conquest, because he verily perswaded himselfe, that *Brisfaldi* was the Lady, of whome the wise *Orbicomte* had told him: wherefore during the space of sixe weekes, he continued there in this heauen of delight, till fortune, jealous of so mutuall agreement, separated them, as you shall presently heare.

CHAP. XIX.

¶ How a strange aduenture happened in the Citie of *Varne*, by the ending whereof, the Prince *Palladine* determined to depart from the Duchesse *Brisfaldi*.



Here must I intreate ye to remember the Princes of *Norgalles* and *Scots*, *Landaftines* and *Simprinell*, whome we left in the King of *Englands* Court, *Landaftines* being enamoured on the Princesse *Florea*, Sister to *Palladine*, as *Mantoleo* was of his faire *Marcelina*. *Simprinell* loth to part thent that agreed so well, left his companion in *England*, trauieling to the King of *Norgalles* Court, where he certified his share of the good estate of his home *Landaftines*. Which newes were so welcome to the King, as he intreated *Simprinell* to abide in his Court, that he might shew him the pleasures of his Realme: whereto the yong Prince right willingly condescended, as one desirous to behold nouelties. But rather the chiefe cause was, his affection to the faire Princesse *Belanicia*, daughter to the King of *Norgalles*, with whose beauty he was meruailously enamoured,

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led, and not daring to acquaint her with his loue, he fell into a dangerous sickness, to the great grief of the King, who loued him as he had bene his owne Sonne. In the end, the Physicians hauing declared to Simprinell, how perilous his case stood by concealing his griefe, made him thus resolu'd, that befoze he died, he would make knowne to the Princessse Belanicia (who oftentimes came her selfe to visit him, and sent him many comfortable meates in his sickness) the originall cause of his extremitie. And one time among other, the Lady that was most usually sent by the Princessse, and in whome she reposed greatest confidence, desired him to betw:ay from whence his sickness grew, promising withall, that she would labour to her uttermost, to procure his health. The yong Prince very modest and bashfull, taking the Lady by the hand, thus answered.

Faire friend, I thanke ye for your readie good will in seeking my helpe, which is a matter not impossible to be done: but as for the cause of my languishing disease, I will not acquaint ye therewith, vnlesse ye sweare to keepe the same secret, not reuealing it to any one but such as I shall name. Assure your selfe thereof, said the Lady, by the saith of a virgin. Know then sweete Lady, quoth Simprinell, that my extreame sickness happened by no other cause, then the loue and affection I beare to your mistresse: and feare to offend her or the King, hath by silence of my loue brought me to this daunger. Why my Lord: quoth she, you that are of so high and honorable descent, can ye offend my Lady by louing her: or you that are as good as she, doe not deserue loue for loue: she is the child of a King, and so are you, beside, she is humble and gracious as any Princessse liuing, then feare not to let her knowe your daunger. Alas Madame, quoth he, neuer shall I dare to speake to her: but may it please you to sollicite my cause, yet with carefull heed of her dislike, I shall confesse my life preferred by you. And so much will I doe for ye my Lord, quoth she,

she, without giving her any occasion of offence; but rather shall I do it in such sort, as by a speedie answer you shall perceiue her mind. So then good madame, said the Prince, and boldly may ye assure her, that my life or death is in her hand. So went the Lady to her mistresse, to whom she imparted what you haue heard, wherewith she was so well pleased, as she presently sent to him againe this answer, that she entertained his loue with the like, and that as he would witnesse his affection towards her, he should practise what speed he could deuise for his health.

These words breathed such life into the Prince, as within few dayes he was perfectly recovered, when after many amorous parles with Belanicia, she to make a triall how his loue was grounded, hauing heard report of the faire Duchesse Brisalda: desired him to trauell to *Varne* in *Bulgaria*, carrying with him her liuely counterfeite, and there to maintaine against all Knightes whatsoeuer, that she was fairer then the Duchesse Brisalda, on which condition, she would accept him as her Knight and loyall seruant.

Simprinell glad to be so commaunded, the next day he departed with his foure Squires, and coming to *Varne*, where the Duchesse remained, heard what braue imployment was there in Chivalrie: wherefore coming to the accustomed place of the Tourney, on a faire Piller he placed his Ladyes picture, saying, he would maintaine against all comers, that his mistresse excelled the Duchesse Brisalda in beautie. The Knightes attendant on the Duchesse, were amazed hereat, preparing themselves to defend her cause: but Simprinell willed them first to bring the Duchesse counterfeite, and it to be placed by his Ladies, and the conquerour should carie them both with him. Right soone was the Duchesse figure set on the Piller, and Simprinell this first day dismounted twelue Knightes: Palladine being ridden abroade on hushing, which made Brisalda despaire of her fortune, fearing the strange champion would depart unconquered.

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This dayes good successe, emboldened Simprinell to try the second, when Palladine entring the Lisses among the other Knightes, whome one by one he sawe bravely whoresed, he came to Simprinell with these speeches.

In sooth (Sir Knight) I commend your enterprise, being a cause that maketh many forward in Armes: but as for the Lady, whome you extoll beyond my Lady the Duchesse here present, I say and will averre the contrary, against you and all other till the houre of death. If affection hath blinded your eyes, I some shall alter that opinion, when your owne selfe shall confesse, that your Lady is no way to be compared with mine.

I imagine by your words Sir, answered Simprinell, that you will defend your mistresse by the tang onely: but let us goe to the matter roundly, for you are not yet so good an Oratour, as to perswade me from a resolved assurance.

You thinke then, quoth Palladine, that I thinke to escape the Combate by my words. Not so, for you shall see me effectually defend the hono^r of her beautie who is my mistresse. So giving the spurres to their horses, they encountered with such violence, as Palladine lost his stirrups, but Simprinell was cast forth of his saddle, to the great ioy of the Duchesse and her friends, that his presumptuous arrogancie was so worthely checked.

Afterward they fell to the Combate with the sword, and long they fought without any advantage, till Palladine by tripping his enemy, got him downe, and himselfe upon him, when holding his sword over him, he sayd: Now must thou confesse the Duchesse his wife, to be a Lady farre exceeding thine in beautie, else art thou not like to see her againe. Seeing fortune hath throwne me into this extremitie, said Simprinell, I confesse my selfe vanquished: but to say that my mistresse is inferiour to thine, I will not though I die therefore, nor am I otherwise bound by my owne conditions, then to leave her portrait to

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to the will of the conquerour. The Judges of the field gaue sentence accordingly, whereupon Palladine left Simprinell, and went to place the Duchesse counterfeit aboute Belanicia, albeit he perceiued her figure much more beautifull: by which conceit he gathered, that this was she of whome the wise Orbiconte told him, wherefore he onely minded Belanicia, purposing right soon to forsake the Duchesse.

As he was vnaruing in his chamber, he began to thinke how he might leaue Brisalda, and what excuse would serue for his departure: yet when he considered his good entertainment, and what especiall fauour he had receiued at her hands, he altered his mind, reputing the words of Orbiconte for more illusions.

And as he continued in this deepe musing, he thought he heard one whisper in his eare, saying: It is not here Palladine that thou must abide, wherefore follow the good fortune that is promised thee. Whereupon he concluded, what euer happened, he would depart on the morrow; and thereof that night he meant to aduertise the Duchesse, to whome he went right soon afterward.

CHAP. XX.

¶ How Palladine aduertised the Duchesse of his departure, and how traauiling to the Realme of Norgalles, he had a dangerous Conubate with Simprinell, whome he knew afterward.



With were & troublesome thoughts of Palladine, in hastening his departure toward Belanicia, as without any longer stay he came to the Duchesse, who seeing him looke so sad, desired to knowe the cause thereof. In sooth Madame, quoth he, I can not forget the strange Knight that I fought withall this day: right so;ie

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forie I am that I demaunded not his name: for I imagin
I haue sometime sene him in *England*. If that be all, sayd
the Duchesse, we will send for the Knight hither: but her
seruing was in vaine, for he departed immediatly after
the Combate. When Palladine saue no excuses would
serue, but she would needes presse him with earnest request
of his penitencesse, he said.

Let it not dislike ye good Madame, if I haue intended
any thing for your honoꝝ and mine owne, but rather con-
ceine thereof as it deserueth. Full well you knowe faire
mistresse, that hardly can we continue our loue together,
enioying the benefite of god hap affords vs, without ieal-
ous suspicion of your Lords and Ladies: and affection
maketh amorous friends oftentimes forgetfull of them-
selues, so that being subiect to the iudgement of many,
they shall hardly escape without scandalous and peremp-
torie speeches. And nothing (sweet Madame) is more hurt-
full to our honoꝝ, especially yours, in respect of your great-
nesse and authoritie: to prevent which danger, and that
hereafter we may stand out of the reach of wounding
tonges, I meane to trauaile to *England* to the King my
Father, whome I wil acquaint with the intended marriage
betwene vs, and his good will obtained, right sone shall I
returne to haue it accomplished. In the meane while, you
may conferre thereon with the Lords of your Councell,
who (I thinke) will not dislike thereof, when they under-
stand my birth and parentage, so shall our credits be safely
defended, and what hath past alreadie, be sufficiently re-
compenced.

When Brisalda heard these speeches, her heart was so
swollen with griefe, as she was not able to make any an-
swere: whereat he could not but intenaile, considering his
words tended to great reason: yet with such zealous per-
suasions he still laboured her, making faithfull promise of
his speedie returne, as in the end he obtained her consent,
albeit God knowes verie vnwilling. Giuing her then an
amorous

amorous conge, he tooke two bracelets from his armes, verie richly embellished with pearle and stone, and presented them to the Duchesse, saying. On the same day I came to your Court, swete Madame, you gaue me a iewel, which I will keepe for your sake while I liue: that you may likewise remember me, I beseech ye to weare these bracelets, which were giuen me by my mother on the day I was knighted. Alas my Lord, quoth she, I doubt you haue left me such a remembrance, as except you speedily returne againe, will beare me company to my latest home. Yet will I keepe one of the bracelets for your sake, and when you come againe, I will haue the other. So putting the bracelet on her arme, she vowed neuer to take it off, vntill she sawe her knight returned. With many kind embracings, and deuoute kisses, he returned to his lodging, and the Duchesse to her chamber, where calling her trustie maiden to her, who was a captive Moore, and one not alittle in her fauour, being acquainted with all that had passed betwene the Prince and her, with many bitter sighes and teares, she telles the Moore the summe of her græfe. The Moore perswaded her, that the Prince herein had done aduisedly, for safetie of both their honors, if their loue (as greatly she doubted) had sorted to effect: for secrecie must be the meane to couer such matters, which she would so substantially bring to passe, as none but themselves should be acquainted therewith. With much ado the Duchesse was pacified, and on the morrow when Palladine departed, she sent him a purse of gold to spend in his trauaile, causing her Lords to accompanie him two or thre miles on his way: and so (though loth) these louers are seperated, the Duchesse abiding solitarie in her Pallace, and Palladine (hauing bidden the Lords adieu) is iourneying in haste toward *Norgalles*.

We had not ridden halfe part of the day, but a knight with thre Squires gallopped after him, crying: Stay Sir knight, for here commes one that must speake with thee.

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Palladine

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Palladine prefently turning his horffe, tooke his Launce from his Squire, thus aunfwering.

What is he that would fpeake with me? let him keepe out at the length of my Launce, till I haue better knowledge of him, why he fhould come to fcke me in fuch hafte. Becaufe thou wouldeft fo faine knowe me, aunfwered the Knight, thou fhalt vnderftand, that I am the man thou didft vanquifh yefterday, moze by fortune then prowefle: therefore I would now trie againe, how well I can reuenge my former foyle. So fetching their carire, they encountred together fo brauely, as they were both difmownted, and while their Squires laboured to catch their horffes that ran about the feld, they fell to the combate with the Sword, and wounded each other very dangerously, till in the end Palladine got the aduantage: and as he made proffer to fmite off his enemies head, he knew him to be Simprinell, ~~Some to the~~ King of Scots. Some was all the former unkindneffe pacified, and each embraced other verie louingly, reprouing themfelues of great wrong to frendfhip, yet excufing the fame by ignorance. When their Squires fawe how they were wounded, one of them thus fpake. In this wood (my Lords) is a faire Abbey, and there remaineth one verie fkilfull in Chirurgie: fo please ye to goe thither, the Abbot will entertaine ye gently, becaufe he is brother to a worthy Gentleman, who fpend his time as a Knight errant, and for his fake he loueth all ftrange Knightes whatfoeuer.

They not mifliking this counsell, went prefently to the Abbey, where the Abbot welcommed them as befoemed their eſtates: and while their Supper was prouiding, the fkilfull man hauing viſited their woundes, they walked into the faire Orchards and Gardens, recounting to each other their fenerall fortunes, ſince they were together in the Court of England. Simprinell diſcourſed his loue to Belamie of Norwiche, and the caufe of his commuting to the Citie of Varnie: which when Palladine heard, he determined

ned not only to forget his affection to Belanicia, but also to assist his friend to his uttermost in obtaining her loue, saying.

My noble friend, I knowe what manner of disease loue is, if one haue not receiued the sweetes thereof, albeit, when I sawe you in *England*, I had no knowledge at all therein: wherefore, if I shall accompanie you to *Norgalles*, such good speeches will I vse of you to your Lady, as she shall not be offended for not bringing her portraict againe, or that of the Duchesse which she sent ye for.

Simprinell thanked the Prince for his offer, but he was farre otherwise addicted, saying: he had promised his Lady a further iourney for her loue, wherein he would not haue any companie.

With this answere was Palladine well contented, directing his course another way: so hauing stayed two daies at the Abbey, and either of them being able to beare Armour, he left Simprinell there, and courtcously taking his leaue of the Abbot, set on whither fate and fortune would guide him.

And after he had ridden sine or sixe dayes, he met a horseman, with whome, falling in talk, he vnderstood, that the great Prince Cesar of *Rome*, had at *Paris* entered a noble Tournament, for the loue of the faire Rosamonde of *Fraunce*, a Princesse esteemed incomparable in beautie. And I (quoth the Courrier) am sent to the King of *Norgalles* Court, who hath a faire Daughter named Belanicia, before whome, I must reueale my message, and declare the Prince Cæsars challenge, in presence of all the Kings Knights. Afterward, I must trauaile to *Bulgaria*, and in the Court of the Duchesse Brisaldia, a Lady likewise renowned for her beautie, I must make knowe of this famous Tournament.

Palladine glad to heare the Duchesse so commended, and that now he had the meanes to see the Princesse Belanicia, accompanied the messenger to *Norgalles*, and by the

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way, meeting Belancia riding in her Litter abroad for her recreation, with diuers Knightes that attended on her, Palladine was prouoked to Ioust with them, by a contemptuous challenge of one of her Knightes. But such was their ill lucke, as all her champions were dismounted, till her brother Landastines took the cause in hand, hauing left the *English* Court to come see the King his father: and after they had broken many Launces, not being able to preuaile against each other, they ended the sport, and Landastines knowing Palladine, took him with him to the Court, where he was welcommed honozably by the King, as also the faire Belancia his daughter.

CHAP. XXI.

¶ How *Simprinell* being healed of his wounds, returned to *Vance*, where he vanquished the Prince *Alfian* of *Ireland*, and brought away the portrait of *Brifalda*.



When *Simprinell* felt himselfe well recouered, and remembred, how he had not onely failed in winning the portrait of the Duchesse, but in the attempt had lost y^e figure of his mistress *Belancia*: he determined not to goe to *Norgalles*, vnlesse he could accomplish his Ladyes commaundement. Wherefore taking his leaue of the Abbot, he rode backe againe to *Vance*, and comming to the place of triumphs, found the Duchesse with her Ladyes placed on the Scaffolds, and the Prince *Alfian* of *Ireland* the Champion for *Brifalda*, who preuailed wth they against all that encountred with him. *Simprinell* looking on his Ladyes picture, and seeing it embased vnder the Duchesse, had such a violent impression stroke him to the harte, as he intended to recouer her honoz againe, or
else

else to leaue his life in the field. And in this resolution he encountred the *Irish* Prince, passing two or three courtes brauely, the *Squiers* of their *Lances* flying vp into the aire: but at the third assaunt, he met *Alban* so roughly, as both horse and man were sent to the ground.

When *Alban* had recovered his sate, he drew his sword, and comming to *Simprinell*, who by this time was alighted, and prepared for him: when they began a fierce and cruell combate, whereof *Simprinell* in the end had the hono^r. Then comming to the *Duchesse*, with courteous reuerence he demaunded of her, if she would permit him to carie thence the portraites: whereunto she made no answere, but in a great anger fiong from the *Stallord*, because her champion had defended her cause no better. Whereupon, the *Judges* as the equitie of the case required, deliuered the portraites to *Simprinell*, which he giuing to his *Squires*, mounted on horsebacke, returning presently backe to the *Abbey*, not a little glad of his high good fortune. At the *Abbey* he stayed three or foure dayes, to heale such woundes as he toke in the last combate, and afterward departed toward *Norgalles*, where he arrived without any aduenture by the way to hinder him. If he were welcome to the *Lords* and *Ladies*, I referre to your opinions, and how the *Princesse* *Belanicia* liked thereof, when she sawe her *Knight* returned with the *Duchesse* counterfeit, let *Ladies* desirous of especiall account, imagine her content: but in requitall of his great paines, so confidently did she loue him afterward, as by imparting the same to her brother *Landaistines*, who highly fauoured his friend *Simprinell*: the *King* was made acquainted therewith, and *Ambassadors* sent to the *King* of *Scots*, such good liking thereof being found betwene them both, as the marriage was consumated, and long loue requited with desired recompence.

Afterward, *Simprinell* imparted to *Landaistines*, how at first he was soyled by the *Prince* *Palladine*, and in his
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absence had won his Ladyes credit againe : which Landathines tooke so unkindly, as they concluded to trauaile to *Paris*, whither the *English* Prince was gone before, to reconcile this wrong to former amitie. And thither are ridden Landathines and Simprinell, to the great græse of the King and Quene, but chæfely of Belanicia, so sone to forgoe her Lord and husband.

Palladine entised with the report of this braue Tournament, held at *Paris* by the Prince Caesar for faire Rosamonde of *France*, would needs be saine in those worthe exploits : and landing at *Calis* (loth to be knowne in *England*, least the King his father should hinder his intended iourney,) he met with the Duke of *Gaule*, accompanied with twentie knightes braunchy mounted, he likewise riding to the Prince Caesars Tourney, by the commaundement of the faire Agricia of *Naples*, whome he honozed as his Lady and mistresse.

After they had saluted each other, Palladine presently knew the Duke, remembryng he had sene him in his fathers Court : yet would not he make any shew thereof, because he was so slenderly accompanied, hauing no one with him but his Squire Lyccho, and therefore was content to be esteemed but as a poore knight errant.

The Duke merrily demaunded of Palladine, whether he trauailed, and about what affaires.

My Lord, quoth the Prince, my iourney is to *Paris*, and no other busines haue I there, then to make one in the famous Tournament, ordained by the Prince Caesar of *Rome* for loue of the faire Rosamonde of *France*.

But will you, quoth the Duke, aduenture your selfe against a Prince so magnanimous : In sooth (answered Palladine) I will try my fortune both against him and other, if I may.

Alas, said the Duke scoffingly, your courage exceeds your abilitie, if you desire the combate, as you professe : I would aduise ye not to meddle with Caesar, for if ye doe,
you

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you will hardly deale with any other afterward. Let that fall out, quoth Palladine, as my satall Starres haue appointed: if I be vanquished, I must put it vp with patience: for I am as all men are, subiect to fortune.

You are then, said the Duke, the Knight of fortune, and she your mistresse: yet can I scant thinke it, vnesse that is she which is painted in your Shield.

Palladine seeing the Duke so scorne him, angerly answered.

In truth my Lord, your lips hang in your light, in taking the God of loue to be fortune.

I see I am deceiued, quoth the Duke, for Cupid hath made you a louing Knight: by the faith I beare to Chivalrie, me thinks amorous conceites doe ill agree with so yong a countenance. I scant thinke, said Palladine, that your elder countenance can disgrace mine so yong. Be not angrie Gentleman, quoth the Duke, the tyme is dangerous for diseases: and if you chafe your selfe too much, you may chance to be beguiled of all your wit. If I happen hereafter, said Palladine, either to borrow some wit of you, or to lend you more then you seeme to haue, thinke a yong man as able as he that looke more auncient: and so: your scoffing floutes, the next time I meete with you, you and I will try who is the better man. So taking a Scarffe from about his arme, he threw it to the Duke, saying: In witness of my words, there is my gadage, which I will fetch againe before I will forfeit it, and pay you vsurie enough for your taunting speeches. With which words he galloped an other way, the Duke in great laughter bidding him adieu: but Palladine rode on verie patiently, minding to be reuenged on the Duke when he came to *Paris*. But it fell out contrarie to his expectation, for the Duke, and all his lightes riding toward *Paris*, were taken by two cruell Outlawes, that kept a strong Castell, they being named Brulanfurior, and Fruciant, who likewise kept the Prince Lewes of *France* prisoner, because

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because Brulanfurior sought to marie with his Sister Rosamonde: and being denyed, as unworthie so faire a Princess, he and his Brother left the Court, alluring with them the yong Prince Lewes. and there led a most hatefull and despised life, imprisoning all the knightes they could get, and stealing all necessaries from the poore countrey men.

By this Castell Palladine chaunced to ride, when he saw the servants to these cruel men, take violently a great heerd of Sheepe from two poore Shepheards, which he got them againe by killing the thæues: and afterward understanding the thraldome of Prince Lewes, disguised in Shepheards habits, he and Lycelio entred the Castell, where by policie they slew Brulanfurior and Frucidanor, with all the villaines that attended on them. Then searching the Prisons, they found the Prince Lewes, the Dukes of *Sauoy*, *Gaulle*, and *Guinne*, the Countie of *Champagne*, and many other great Lords prisoners there: to whome he gaue libertie, and so the Duke of *Gaulle* confessing his former folly, was frendly pardoned by the Prince Palladine, and there stayed three or foure dayes in companie with the Princes, while Lycelio annointed his woundes with the precious vnguent, so that they were sound and perfectly healed.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXII.

¶ How the Princes *Palladine*, and *Lewes* of *France*, arrived at *Paris*, and of the noble deedes of armes, accomplished by the Prince *Cesar* in the Ioustes, which he maintained for the loue of faire *Rosamonde* of *France*.



Discreetly remained the Princes in the Castell of *Brulanfurior* and beguiling the time with repetition of many knightly adventures, till feeling themselves in good plight to trauaile, and knowing the day was now at hand, when *Prince Cesar* would begin his enterprise for faire *Rosamonde*: when *Lewes* committing the Castell to the custodie of a trustie Gentleman, and what prisoners remained, to stay the censure of the King his father, with *Palladine* he set forward to *Paris*.

Loth was the *English* Prince to be knowne (as yet) to the King of *France*: untill he had tried his fortune against *Cesar* of *Rome*: wherefore he intreated Prince *Lewes* and the rest to conceale his name: and so: I would not be knowne (quoth *Palladine*) by my *Shield*, I beseech ye good *Lewes* to lend me yours, which I will imploy with such chivalrie, as you shal not be dishonored thereby. Prince *Lewes* granted *Palladine*s request, and coming to *Louure* where the King then lay, no little ioy was made for the returne of the yong Prince. And when the King demanded for the knight that flew *Brulanfurior* and *Freudant*: the Prince answered, that he was gone to *Paris*. but would not be knowne till he had Iousted with the Prince *Cesar*.

On the morrow the *Tournament* began, and the knights entering the *Armes*, the King and all the estates placed

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placed to regard the sports: Prince Caesar verie brauely came forth of his Tent, and the first that made offer to ruine with him, was the Duke of *Gaule*, who bare in his Shield for his deuise, a Knight fighting with a Lion. Whereby was figured, the noble assistance he gaue to his Lady *Agricia*, who had bene deuoured by a Lion had not he defended her: whereupon, she entertained him as her knightly seruant, commanding him to trauaile to *Paris*, and to maintaine her beautie against Prince Caesar of *Roome*, as farre excellling faire *Rosamonde* of *France*. For this cause he entred the Listles, and coming to Caesar, thus spake. Wither am I come Sir Knight, to iustifie that my mistresse faire *Agricia* of *Naples*, excēdeth *Rosamonde* in all perfections of beautie. And I, quoth Caesar will maintaine the contrarie, that the Lady thou hast named, deserues not to be equalled with my diuine Goddess. So cōtouching their Launces, they met together with exquisite chiuallrie, and at the second encounter, the Duke of *Gaule* was unhorsed: when being caried into his Tent by his Squires, verie sore hurt and brused with his fall, he entred into many dolorous complaints, because he had so lost the honoz of his mistresse.

Landastines of *Norgalles*, and *Simpriuell* of *Scotland*, being come thither to finde the Prince *Palladine*, determined to make pzoofe of their valour against Caesar, but they accompanied the Duke of *Gaule* in misfortune, and so did diuers other Knightes after them.

Then entred the Listles two braue gallants, the one in ayured Armour thick set with Starres of gold, and in his Shield, a Lady reskewed from a Giant: the other bare for his deuise, Flame triumphant in a silver feld.

The Knight in ayure Armour, made signe to Caesar, that he would first aduenture for his Lady: yet such was his ill hap in the end, as both horse & man were throught to the ground. When the Knight of Flame saue his friend dismounted, he came to Caesar with these speeches.

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Sir Knight, I confesse as well as thou dost, that my Lady Rosamonde excelleth all other in beautie: but this will I make good on thy body, that I am more woorthie to be her seruant then thou art. It should seme then, answered Caesar, that I deserue not to be so accounted: this controuersie shall the strength of my Launce presently discide, and thou or I will be her onely seruant. Whereupon, they encountred verie valiantly, breaking many Launces, yet neither able to moue the other, whereat, they both grew angrie, desiring the King to let them haue stronger Launces, or else to permit them the Combate with the Sword: but the King would not suffer them to meddle with Swords, commanding each of them a very strong Launce, at which charge, the Prince Caesar was brauely dismounted, and the Knight of fame had almost boync him company. A great murmuring presently grew among the people, some auouching, that because the strange Knight so hardly recovered himselfe, therefore Prince Caesar should not be held as vanquished, but that they should proue thir fortune once more. But the Judges gaue verdict to the contrarie, attributing the conquest to the Knight of fame: which when Caesar heard, he went to the King, to intreate his Maiestie for the Combate with the Sword: but he denyed it him, saying, that the Joules being enterprised for loue, ought not to be ended in hatred.

At these words, Prince Caesar went to his Lady Rosamonde, who gaue him many thanks for his honorable paines: and though his successe happened so ill in the end, yet would not she withdraw her loue.

But now comes Palladine into the field, being sorie he had not the conquest of Caesar, yet determining to end his choller on the Knight of fame, to whome he approached, saying: It grieues me Sir Knight that I Jouled not with noble Caesar, for if I had, little praise couldest thou haue gotten to day. Your reason? answered the Knight of fame. Because I had won my honoz (of Palladine) which

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thou

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thou vnderstandest, and yet remains in doubt among a number, which if thou darrest say thou hast deserved, I will auouch the contrary: beside, it appertaines not to thee, to be seruant to the faire Lady Rotamonde no; to the very meanest among her Ladies: so; (as I vnderstand) she is prouided of one beyond thee many degrees. Good Sir, answered the Knight of fame, you are very bold and braue in speeches: what moueth ye so much to abase me, seeing you knowe not of whence or what I am: no; halt thou seme any matter in me deseruing these words. But I perceiue the cause hereof groweth, by the desire thou hast to deale with me, wherein thou shalt haue thy desire, either at the Launce or Sword, so please the King to graunt vs that libertie. Then turning to his Maiestie, the Knight of fame intreated the combate, with the Sword, if they could not finish their quarrell at the Launce. Loth was the King to suffer such danger, but the Judges, with many Lords and Barons there present, noting the earnest desire of the Knight, and that they were both strangers, perswaded his highnesse, intending to cause them giue ouer, if in fight either of them should be in perill of life.

When they had thus obtained what they would, they gaue their horses the spurs, and with a verie rough encounter, they were both dismounted, whereat Palladine verie angrie, drew his Sword, and marching against the Knight of fame, such a cruell combate continued betwene them, as neuer had the like bene scene in France. The King beholding their Armour broken, and the ground reuolored with their scarlet blood, sent his Sonne the Prince Lewes to intreate them giue ouer: which they immediately did, the Knight of fame being not a little glad thereof, because he was brought into verie great debilitie, onely by the exceeding abundant losse of his blood. Lewes bringing them before the King his father, caused them both to be graciously entertained, and taking Palladine by the hand, sayd. See here my Lord the man that slew Brulansfurior
and

and his brother, who deliuered me from imprisonment, and many knightes that were held captiue in the Castell.

The King not alittle ioyfull of these newes, arose and embraced Palladine, saying.

Tell me, Knight, I am more indebted to you then any man else in the world, for you alone haue done that to me, which neither with strength or pollicie I was able to compass. I enioy my Sonne againe by your meanes, and my people are deliuered from those mercurielle villaines, whome neyther law nor loue could bryde: let me vnderstand of whence you are, that I may knowe the man to whome I am so highly beholding.

My Lord, answered the Prince, my name is Palladine, Sonne to the King Milanor of *England*, your louing brother and bowled friend.

At these words, the King was much more glad then before, and casting his armes about his necke, with inward conceite of ioy, the teares trickled downe his face: then came the Quene and faire Rosamonde her daughter, who welcommed the Prince with maruailous courtesie, the like did Landastines, Simprinell and Lydisco of *Hungaria*, who was the man that came with the Knight of Fame, and at report of these Triumphes traualled into *France*.

As for the Knight of Fame himselfe, he was called Don Robert, the Prince of *Freeze*, a stout, couragious and hardie champion, greatly deuoted to the lone of faire Rosamonde. The King presently departed to his Pallace, there to hono: these braue knightes as they woorthely deserved: but Caesar of *Rome* highly thanked Palladine, for reuenging his foyle on the Knight of Fame, swearing to him an inuolable league of amitie, which grew to such effect, as you shall hereafter behold.

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CHAP. XXIII.

¶ How the Princes *Don Robert of Freize*, and *Lydisco of Hungaria*, being healed of their woundes, departed from *Paris*: and of a letter which the wise *Orbicomte* sent to *Palladine*, who was passionate for the loue of faire *Rosamonde of Fraunce*.

DOn Robert of *Freeze*, hauing kept his chamber certaine dayes, by reason of the dangerous woundes he had receiued, and *Palladine* likewise in the selfesame estate, yet carefully attended on by the Kings Chirurgions, a greater cossey happened to them both, then either their woundes or doubt of health. For Don Robert

seeing he was not regarded of the faire Princeesse *Rosamonde*, whome he loued as dærely as his own life, thought to haue committed violence on himselfe, but that by good aduise he was better perswaded, and being out of hope to compass his desire, when he was somewhat recovered, he and *Lydisco of Hungaria* took their leaue of the King, shaping their course through *Piccardie* toward *Bullin*, where they imbarqued themselves, and sailed into *England*, for that they were desirous to see the good King *Milnor*, to whome they brought letters from his Sonne *Palladine*. Landastines likewise as not vnmindfull of his *Flora*, sent the message of his heart vnder seale by *Lydisco*, excusing his absence which should not be long, and hoping to bring her brother home with him. As for *Palladine*, he became so affected to the Princeesse *Rosamonde*, whome he imagined to be the Lady so retold by the wise *Orbicomte*: as he wasted and consumed in pensue thoughts, practising how to obtaine her loue, albeit he adventured the hard *Stratagemes*

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gemes of death. Oftentimes would he priuately conferre with her, and she would aunswere him with such rare modestie, as increased his toiments about the compasse of reason. No; was she so; getfull of his dangerous paines, in deliuerance of her brother Lewes from imprisonment, ioyning therewithall the common benefit, by the death of Brulanturior and his brother Frucidant: but as for the priuiledge of her loue, the Prince Caesar of *Rome* was Lord thereof, and her settled affection impossible to be remoued. All which he perceiued by such manifest signes, as made him were frantike in silent cogitations: sometime thinking to fo;estall his friend, by making the first request of her in mariage: then againe intending the death of Caesar, rather then to misse of the faire Rosamonde. And though the Romaine Prince loued him dierely, yet the surie of blinde loue made Palladine so impatient, as he minded nothing but Caesars death, which with a sharpe Launce in the Thoust he imagined might easily be done, or with an infected cup of popson giuen him in his chamber.

But the wise Orbiconte still directing Palladines course, and knowing by her arte his secret intent, onely by being deceiued in his owne opinion: would separate Palladine from Caesar, by calling him to his destenped Countrey, whereof we spake in the beginning of our Historie, and thus it happened.

The Prince being in his Chamber with Landastines, Simprinell, and his Squire Lycelio, imagining how to finish his determination: on a sudden there entred a little deformed Dwarfie, who saluting Palladine, gaue him a Letter, saying.

My Lord, the wise Orbiconte hath sent ye this Letter, the contents whereof, he commaunds you to fulfill, otherwise, great harme will happen to you. He had no soneer spoken these wo;ds, but immediatly he vanished away. How now? quoth Landastines, whether is the little Jack an Apes gone? oftentimes haue I seene the craftie
deceits

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deceits of Jugglers, but neuer sawe I such a trick before: I hold my life the Deuill fetched him away. This strange accident made Palladine remember the voyce that whispered in his eare at *Vorne*, when he determined to depart from the Duchesse Brisalda: and desirous to knowe the newes from Orbiconte, he feigned that he would lie downe vpon his bed, wherefore Landastines and Simpynell withdrew themselves, when he opening the Letter, read as followeth.

*The Letter from Orbiconte the wife, to Palladine
the Prince of England.*

HAuing certaine knowledge (vertuous Prince) of the Extreame loue thou bearest to the beawtifull Rolamonde, and the doubtfull estate whercinto her amiable looks hath brought thee: I am to aduertise thee, in respect of the loue I beare thee, as also the good support I shall one day receiue by thee, that the Prince Caesar of Rome is appoynted for her, and no other then her shall she haue in marriage. Therefore withdrawe thy earnest desire, and the execution of that thou hast determined: which is, to demand her for thy wife, and to preuent the life of Caesar, whome she entirely loueth and honoreth in heart: assuring thee, that another is referred for thee, who excelleth in beawtie the faire Rolamonde, and all the other Ladies of Christendome: whose lively portraite thou shalt see to morrow, brought to the place where thou art by a Knight, whome thou shalt vanquish in Combate, and by that means recover her picture. Then taking leaue of the Court, thou shalt trauaile to seek her in her Countrey, which shall be named to thee by the Knight: and neuer feare any dangers in thy journey, for thou shalt be favoured by fortune and me, who haue foreseene all these things that shall happen.

Thy good friend, Orbiconte the wife,
and Propheesse.

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Palladine hauing read this Letter, was meruailously perplered in his spirit, doubting whether he might credit the aduertisement of Orbiconte, or execute his intent touching faire Rosamonde: whome he reputed so accomplished with all perfections of beawtie, as he iudged it impossible to finde her second in the whole world. Beside, he was thoroughly inueigled with her loue, as he despaired how he could direct his fancie: on the other side he was as greatly displeased, to vnderstand that she would loue none but Caesar, and that to him she onely was vowed. In these diuers opinions he spent the whole night, yet in the end considering by the Letter of Orbiconte, that what he had pretended was knowne to her, he concluded to credit her message, and especially if the Knight came accordingly on the morrow, with the portraite of her he desired so much to see, upon this determination he slept till morning.

CHAP. XXIIII.

¶ How a Pagan Prince came to the Court of France, bringing with him the portraire of the Princesse Nonpareil: and of the Combate betweene him and Palladine, who hauing woon the portraite, departed from the Court.

TH E next morning, the King and all his Barons being in the great Hall, Palladine, Landastines and Simprienell likewise in companie, there entered a Squire, attired after the Morisco manner, who making great reuerence, thus began.

Wightie and redoubted King, I am sent from the Prince Zarcanel of Chipre, who yet abideth without the Citie, to craue licence of your Maiestie, that he may report befoze you and

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your Lords, an enterprize which he hath determined to execute before you.

Squire, answered the King, say to thy maister, that he shall be welcome, and boldly let him enter our Citie: for we graunt him free access to our presence, to open any thing he hath intended.

The Squire returned presently to his Lord, who understanding the Kings gracious answer, commanded his servants to goe to the playne before the Court, and there with all speed to set up his Tent: in meane while, himselfe accompanied with three Gentlemen, came before the King, and hauing humbly saluted his Maiestie, before all the Princes and Lords thus spake.

Gracious Prince, I am perswaded that your highnesse well doth knowe, what authority loue hath ouer humane creatures, and how unable they are to resist his power: therefore I beseech ye not to thinke it strange, if I declare what loue hath enforced me to do.

So it is, that hauing heard the beawtie of faire Nonparelia, so highly renowned about all Ladies in the world: as one couetous to see a thing so excellent, I traualled to *Aquilea*, and there found by proofe, that same had rather spared then spoke what she might, there I became immediatly enthralled with her loue, and by gracious behauiours towards her preuailed so farre, as she accepted me to be her knight: with this charge and condition, that I should carie her diuine figure into the Courts of all Christian Princes, where Ladies or Damosels were famous for beawtie, and against all comers to maintaine my mistresse rare preheminence. If froward fortune gaue me the overthrowe, then must I leaue to the conquerour my Ladies counterfeite: but if my luckye Starres graunted me the victorie, I am to carie with me the vanquished Ladies portraite. And hauing heard (my good Lord) that your daughter Rosamonde is named among the fairest in Christendome, I directed my journey hither: and

and may it like you to deliuer her counterfeit on the asfo-
named conditions, I am readie to do my deuoure in the
open field before your Pallace gate, where I haue caused
my Tent to be erected. Might well am I contented, sayd
the King, and immediatly will I come thither with my
daughter, whose portrait shall be there openly presented,
and if any one will combate for her, there shall she be to re-
gard her fortune. Palladine standing by, coniectured this to
be the Knight, whereof the wise Orbiconte made mention
in her Letter: wherefore he first auanced himselfe, ear-
nestly intreating the King, that he might defend his
daughter Rosamonds beautie. Whereto the King pre-
sently graunted, scant to the good liking of Caesar, who still
bare his arme in a scarffe: and began iealously to suspect
Palladine, minding to reuenge him as occasion serued.
Upon this agreement, Zarcanel departed to his Tent,
where being well armed, and brauely mounted, expected
his aduersarie, who not long after came with the King,
the Prince Lewes, and many noble Lords in gallant equi-
page. The Quene, her daughter Rosamonde, and all the
Ladies of the Court, came with great speed to their scaf-
fold, to behold the portrait of the Lady so highly commen-
ded, which hung on a Lance at the entrance of his Tent:
and both the Champions being readie for the Ioust, Zar-
canell comming to Palladine, thus spake.

Sir Knight, as the huge world can not endure two
Sunnes, so may not my eyes abide these two figures, pre-
senting the rarest beautie in the world, the one of them
being a Pagan, and the other a Christian. But this con-
tention betwene us shall be soon ended, without any fa-
tall hazard of the weapon, if thou wilt confesse before this
assemblie, that the incomparable beautie of my Lady, re-
sembleth the cleere Sonne shining in the day time, and
thine the Moone that lighteneth the night.

Sir, Sir, answered Palladine, we come not hither to
argue on the Sonne or Moone, but at the point of the

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Launce, and edge of the Sword, to trie betwene us the honoꝝ of the field, whereof if I be maister, I will be your Summe, and you my Spone if you goe to the ground. Without any further speeches they encountred together, their Launces being broken with such furie, as the *English* Prince was set on the crupper of his horse, but Zarcaneil nothing moued or shaken. In three or foure courses moꝝe, Palladine could neuer fasten his Launce on his enemie, yet Zarcaneil still brake on him, so; he was so nimble, and ranne so close to his horse, as each one wondered at his fine chualrie. Without doubt my Lord, quoth the Countie of *Champaigne* to the King, neuer did I see a braver horseman, he hath the raines of his Courser at commaundement, that can gouerne him in such sort without any attaint. But Palladine angrie at his hard fortune, met Zarcaneil so right at the first course, as breaking the girths of his saddle, his horse ranne away, and left him behinde him. Yet did he quickly recouer himselfe, and drawing his Sword, came valiantly against Palladine, shewing as fine sleights, and agilitie in the Combate, as he did before on horsebacke with his Launce. In the end, it was his fortune to be overcome, when vnder the Sword of Palladine he entred into these complaints.

Unhappie that I am, of force I see I must yeld my selfe, and not my bodie onelye, but my life also, hauing lost the onely maintenance thereof, the gracious fauour and regard of my mistresse. Ah incomparable miserie, fortune that euer esteemed of me hitherto, hath in a moment vtterly reiected me: therefore good Sir Knight, rid me of this paine, and with one stroke end my miserie and life together, for greater good you neuer did to man.

Palladine seeing him in such despaire, so pitied his case, as suffering him to arise, he thus comforted him.

Oy friend, you ought not in this sort to offend your selfe, considering these are but the tricks of fortune, where to all men are dayly subiect, and no moꝝe hath happened to
you

you then might haue done to me. If the Lady so; whom you vnderooke this voyage, loued you well, she cannot but augment it, knowing with valour you defended her cause. In sooth my Lord, answered Zarcanel, rather had I die a thousand deathes, then returne to my Lady, hauing not won the portraite of faire Rosamonde: so; her selfe protested, that neuer would she loue me except I brought it. And here I vow to you, that I will returne to mine owne Countrey, so soone as I haue recovered my woundes: leaving you not onely the portraite you haue won, but those likewise that I conquered in *Norgalles*, and elsewhere, discharging my selfe of loues seruice, seeing he rewards his faithfull seruant no better. Wherein vse your pleasure, quoth Palladine, but first goe with me, that your woundes may be searched to preuent further inconuenience. So going to the King, he desired that his Chirurgions might attend on the knight: so; I assure your Maiestie, quoth he, neuer met I with any man of higher desert. Thereto the King willingly graunted, causing Zarcanel to be conducted to the Court, and to be lodged in one of the fairest chambers, where he was dilligently attended, as in ten dayes he was perfectly recovered. When thanking the King so; his noble entertainment, and taking leaue of his Maiestie, the Prince Lewes, Palladine, and the rest, he departed toward his owne Countrey, not a little agréued (as you may thinke) so; his misfortune.

As so; Palladine, he remembryng the letter sent him by the wise Orbiconte, and hauing imprinted in his heart the Lady Nonparelia, whose counterfeite he kept with choyse regard, determined to take his farewell of the King, and iourney with all speede toward *Aquila*. Wherefore in the euening, the King walking in his Garden after supper, he told his Maiestie, that he was desirous to trauaile to the King his ffather in *England*, and therefore that it would please him to licence his departure. The King (though loth) consented thereto, being so; to forgot the

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Valiant Palladine, who was so great a grace to his Court, Having then taken his leave of the King, and of all the noble Princes and Ladyes; he departed on the morrow from *Paris*, accompanied with Landastines and Simpinnell, taking his way toward *Mulayne*, in hope to finde his friend Manteco there, but he was as then newly gone toward *Normandie*, to pacifie a controuersie betwene his Father and the Duke, who was a man well provided with money and munition, so; he kept diuers Houers and Pirates on the Seas, that dayly brought him great store of good booties.

CHAP. XXV.

¶ How Palladine met with his friende Manteco, whome he had almost slayne in fight, but that a Damosell discovered his name. And how Palladine slew the Pirate Dormidon.



¶ On the fourth day, after Palladine and his friends departed from *Paris*, riding through a Forrest, they met a Knight and a Damosell, and with them a Squire grievously weeping: the Squire ioyfull to meete these knightes, came to Palladine with these speeches. Help Gentlemen, for Gods sake helpe me, to be reuenged on this Traitor, who hath slaine my maister by the procurement of this Damosell. Palladine moued with the Squires teares, rode to the Knight, and thus spake.

Knight, or paillard rather, what hath moued thee to misuse passengers, and to bathe thy hands in innocent blood: Knight if thou wilt, quoth he with the Damosell, but paillard, reserue so; thy selfe: as so; him that I haue slaine, he was the cause of his owne death, because I found him

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him readie to haue dishonored this Damosell. It is best for thee to excuse thy deede, sayd Palladine, in respect here is none that can contrarie thee: but I rather thinke the shame is thine, then his that is dead, as his Squire hath protested to me. Think what thou wilt, quoth the Knight, but the Squire lieth falsly, and I ought to be better beloued then he, if thou didst me the right belonging to Armes: but credit as thou findest occasion, I haue no leysure to stand chatting with thee. And because thou art so lustie, answered Palladine, thou shalt a little tarie my pleasure. So couching their Launces, they met so roughly together, as they were both cast forth of their saddles: afterward, they continued a cruell Combate with the Sword, till Landallines and Simprinell stepping to the Damosell, demanded of her what the Knight was. Alas Gentlemen, quoth she, his name is Mantelco the Prince of *Castile*, whom I see verie hardly requited, for deliuering me from the villaine that would haue forced me. Landallines presently stopping betwixt them, sayd: Come ouer Sir Palladine, for you fight against your deere friend Mantelco. At these words, the Princes threw downe their weapons; and with all the ceremonious courtesies incident to friendship, they louingly embraced each other: whereat, the Damosell greatly meruailed, and the Squire who was the cause of their fight, whereupon, doubting a further danger toward him, because his maister was slaine in so bad a cause, so fast as he could tooke himselfe to flight.

After the manifold kinds excuses, which friendly enemies vse together, they rode with the Damosell to her Castell, where their wounds being visited, they afterward iourneyed to *Mulhene*: Palladine being honorably welcomed by the Duke, and especially fauoured for his loue to his Sonne Mantelco. And hauing feasted there certaine dayes, the Duke recounted to Palladine his present affaires with the Duke of *Normandie*, who after many dishonorable actions, was by his power slaine in a battell: where,

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whereupon, the *Normans* were content to endure his so-
ueraintie ouer them, and so; that cause had they sent
their Ambassadors. In the end, by the worthe aduise of
Palladine, the Duke took the gouernement vpon him, sen-
ding his Sonne Manteleo to receiue the possession thereof.
Now thought Palladine he stayed too long, rememb'ring
the letter from the wise Orbiconte, therefore would he pre-
sently depart toward *Aquiles*, to the great græse of the
Duke and his friend Manteleo, being loth to forget the
English Prince so soone. Landastines and Simprinell, under-
standing that Palladine would trauaile alone, albeit much
willingly they would haue borne him companie, rode back
to *Norgalles* againe, Simprinell confessing how he had won
the portraite of Brisalda, whereof Palladine made little or
no account at all, because he had now almost forgotten
her. Manteleo likewise went to *Normandie*, where he was
receiued as their Lord and Gouernour, and hauing esta-
blished all matters concerning the common wealth, he
cross the Seas into *England*, to visit his best beloved Lady
Marcelina, whome he had chosen aboue all other in the
world.

Palladine thus departing from his friends, hauing none
in his company but his Squire Lyccho, and the Shep-
heard Liboran, by whose meanes he entred the Castell of
Brulanfurior, and therefore gaue him the name of Liboran
the well aduised: took Shipping, and coasting by *Lystria*,
at length they came into *Albana*, where suddenly they
met with a Turkish Pirate, named Dormidon, who thin-
king to seaze on this christian boat, assailed them, yet in
the end was overcome himselfe, and he with the most part
of his men throwne into the Sea.

After this sharpe encounter on the Sea, Palladine was
desirous to take landing at the nextest Island, least they
should be surprized by any more Pirates: and because he
thought each day a yeere, till he might see the swarte God-
desse, promised him by Orbiconte, he determined not to
rest

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rest himselfe in any place, untill he had found what he so earnestly desired, charging his Squires thence forward, to call him The Knight without rest, and vnder this name hereafter he trauaileth.

The Pilote did as he was commaunded, striking presently to the nearest Island, which seemed to them verie beautifull and delectable: but they were no sooner come on land, and their horses brought on shore, which immediately offered to feede on the goodly greene grasse, but a mightie flame of fire issued forth of the ground, and continued befoze them to hinder their passage any further. What meaneth this: sayd the Knight without rest to the Pilote, what may this Isle be named: are we in *Scicilia*, where many affirme there is a Mountaine, that vomiteth fire and flame forth in great aboundance: No my Lord, answered the Pilote, we are verie farre from thence: *Scicilie* whereof you speake, is in the *Mediterranean* Sea, and we are in the *Sea Adriatique*, a great distance from *Aquila*: and as my owne knowledge serueth me, I thinke this soyle is named The Isle of Fire, where hath bene heard and sene matters of great meruaile. And trust me, said the Knight without rest, I neuer sawe the like befoze: I pray ye therefore stay for me in this place, while I goe to see the wonders of this Island: and if I returne not when two dayes are expired, set Sayle and depart whither ye please. Not so my Lord, answered the Pilote, I will not weigh Anker, till I see ye, or heare from ye: in meane while we will expect a lucky gale of winde, that may send vs merily to *Aquila*.

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CHAP. XXVI.

¶ What strange and fearefull visions, *the Knight without rest* sawe in the *Ile of Fire*: and how he returned in exceeding greefe, because he could not finish the enchaunments.



Resolved thus to see this strange Island, the Knight without rest mounteth on horsebacke, leaving Liboran in the Ship, and taking his Squire Lycelio with him. Many Cities, Castels, and Fortresses he seemed to see in the fire, yet nothing did so much amaze him, as the voyce and dollozous cries he heard in the midst of the flame. Ah loue, sayd one, why dost thou still hold me in this miserable paine: doth my offence committed against thy Maiestie, deserue so grievous punishment as this: how ill aduised then was I, to set so light by thy religious lawes and soueraigne authoritie: Pardon, oh pardon him that repenteth, and cease thy iust indignation against them, who while they live, will continue thy faithfull subiects: else graunt them death, which they would endure with willing mindes. Such was the complaint of this sorrowfull creature, which moued the Knight without rest to such pitie, as the teares trickled downe his cheekes with remembrance of the words: and then he called to minde his great discourtesie to the Duchesse Brisalda, whome he had left without consent to see againe, by yielding to the aduertisements of the wise Orbiconte, and so was his minde caried away with the conceite of this aduenture, as he stode a good while silent, not able to speake one word: which when Lycelio perceiued, he sayd: Let vs returne againe (my Lord) from

from hence, for we are not able to passe any further, by reason of the flame that still increaseth as you see. Lycelio, answered the Knight without rest, if thou dost feare or doubt any thing, I pray thee goe backe againe to the Ship, and leaue me to consider better on these meruailes. I will not leaue my Lord, quoth Lycelio, rather will I die first: but if you thinke to goe any further, you must doe it on foote, for your horse can not endure the fire. On foote will I goe then, answered the Knight without rest: for I neither see or feele any thing as yet, that should hinder me from passing further. With these words he alighted, giuing Lycelio his horse to leade: but he was no sooner dismounted, and had drawne his sword, and put on his shield, but he heard another voyce thus complaining. Alas, cometh he now that shall deliuer me from this torment: or to giue me the death I haue long desired: ah death, death, how swete would thy stroke be now to me: why dost thou deferre to exercise thy office on me: I freely yeld thee my life, and thou refusest or scornest to take it. Then heard he another voyce a little further from him, saying. How dooth my miserie exceed all that euer liued: being desirous of death to liue in rest, and yet by no meanes I can attaine it.

The Knight without rest greatly moued at these speeches, thrust his shield befoze him, and would enter the flame, but he had so many strokes with halbards, and other weapons, and yet not able to see who smote him, as hardly could he passe any further. But hauing long time fought with these shadowes, at length he came to a Rocke of white Marble, where he was suddenly smitten downe, and the fire seeming to vanish away, such a darkenesse couered him, as he could see neither heauen or earth, but had innumerable strange visions presented him.

First he sawe a huge multitude of Harpies flying about him, making offer to seaze upon him with their tallants. Then he beheld as many Serpents, houering with their

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wings ouer him, casting flame and fire out at their mouthes: yet could not these, and many other apparitions cause him to dismay, but trusting onely in the God of his strength, they vanished away, and he falling in a sleepe, the wise Orbiconte presented her selfe to him, saying:

*Knight without rest, of whome the heauens haue care,
Abide not in this place so sad and full of woe:
But follow thy intent which doth more good prepare,
And shall on thee thine owne desires bestowe.
Another man must these aduentures end,
So fortune willes, to whome I thee commend.*

This sayd, she presently departed, leauing the knight to finish his dreame, whereat he meruailed when he awaked, to see himselfe alone in that place, not knowing which way to returne to his company: and as he considered on the words of the wise Orbiconte, he arose, and looking on the Rocke, beheld in the midst thereof a Statue of blacke Marble, holding betwene his armes a Table, whereon these words were written in letters of golde.

*When the invincible Dragon shall be chased into this place
by the fure Serpent, he shall give end to these enchaunments
by passing the flame: and those two wall louers, for whome
the King Brandalisco made these charmes, shall bee then
discouered.*

Having read this prophetic, long time he was thinking on the meaning thereof, yet could he not by any meanes come passe it: but true it is, that he doubted (according to the words of the wise Orbiconte) that the ending of this aduenture was destined to another, and not to him, yet if he could he would haue passed further, to see if there had bene any more such matters of regard: but as he made offer to goe, the fire and flame appeared as it did before, and many voices breathed forth bitter complaints. How happie is the man, quoth he, whose high good fortune shall finish these enchaunments, and thereby deliuer the miserable

rable soules, whose cries are able to rent a hart of Adamant. When he perceiued he might not passe further, but that he was resisted by the flame and diuers that smote him: he returned to the place where he left Lycelio, and mounting on horsebacke, came backe to the Ship. Then recounted he to the Pilote, what he had heard and seen in the Ile, and how it grieved him, that he could not end the enchauntments, onely to release the poore soules that cried to him. So setting Sayle, they coasted along *Dalmatia*, which then was vnder the Turkes gouernement, and so rode merily toward *Aquilea*, being then likewise in the Turkes obeyfance, but now subiect to the *Venetians*.

CHAP. XXVII.

¶ How the Knight without rest arriued in *Aquilea*, where he was deliuered from danger by a Knight named *Bronzine*, who brought him into the fauour of the Gouernour of *Enna*. And of an aduenture that happened at dinner time, which *Bronzine* and *Liboran* the well aduised brought to end.



After long and dangerous sailing on the Sea, at length they are come to the Realme of *Aquilea*, where the Knight without rest landing with his companie, left the Pilote, directing their iourney vp into the countrey. By the way, the Knight without rest slew a hidious Serpent, preseruing the life of a yong Damosell readie to be deuoured: and comming to the Citie of *Enna*, toke vp his lodging where he might most conueniently. The name of a Christian being highly hated among the men of this countrey, the Knight without rest was careful to keepe himselfe unknowne, being able to speake the
D. ii. language.

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language and Lycelio likewise: but Lyboran to preserve his life, counterfeited himselfe to be dum, accounting any shift good to escape daunger.

The Gouvernour vnderstanding that strangers were entred the Citie, sent one of his Captaines named Broantine, to enquire of whence and what they were. Broantine comming to their lodging, immediately knew the Knight without rest, being the Knight that accompanied him into *Bulgaria*, when Dardalon defended the Iousts for the Duchesse Brisalda, and brought him to the Citie of *Varie*, as you heard before. Sir Palladine, quoth Broantine, you are hartely welcome hither: what cause hath drawne you into this farre Countrey: long it is since I was last in your companie. The Knight without rest amazed at this acquaintance, especially in a heathen countrey, where he neuer was before, answered. Good Sir, I must desire ye to pardon me, for I doe not remember that euer I saw ye till now: and it may be you take me for some other body. No my Lord, sayd Broantine, I knowe ye well inough, for I trauailed in your companie to the Court of the Duchesse Brisalda, at what tunc you slew the proud and cruell Dardalon. I thanke ye gentle Sir, quoth the Knight without rest, for your friendly remembrance: but may I request the cause of your being in this Countrey? In sooth Sir, answered Broantine, such enemies I haue in the Realmes of *Dace* and *Bulgaria*, for the death of a knight whome I unhappily slew, as I am constrained to absent my selfe from thence, yet do I hope in tunc to conquer my troubles, and to returne home againe in safetie. May I then, quoth the Knight without rest, desire this fauour at your hands, to instruct me how I shall gouerne my selfe among these people, for I would not willingly be knowne that I am a Christian, in respect of the danger may happen to me thereby: and therefore haue I changed my name, calling my selfe the Knight without rest, hauing determined to rest in no place, till I haue found one I earnestly seeke for. Re-
ferre

ferre your selfe to me, said Broantine, you shall not be knowne, but both you and they that came with ye, shall be courteously entreated, and the rather, because you can speake this countrey language. I vnderstand it in dede, said the Knight without rest, and speake it indifferently, as my Squire can doe also: but this Gentleman (meaning Liboran) is ignorant therein, and therefore counterfeiteth himselfe dumbe, that he might not be knowne, nor by him. A good deuise, answered Broantine: stay here (if you please) till I returne, I will goe make report of you to the Gouernour, and by my speeches you shall be frendly welcomed. So went Broantine to the Gouernour, to whome he said, that the Knight without rest was of his acquaintance, a man valiant, hardy, and couragious, professing the same lawe that he did. The Gouernour thinking Broantine was a Pagan, and the Knight without rest in like manner, was glad of his arrivall, and hoping to haue his assistance in the warres, which the King had with the King of *Pannonia*, sent Broantine to him againe, intreating him to dine with him the next day. According to the Gouernours request, the next day, the knight without rest came to the Pallate, where he was entertained verie honozably, the Gouernour vsing these words to him.

Sir Knight, our Captaine Broantine hath made such report of your forwardnes in Armes, as while I liue you must account me your friend: and I will let the King vnderstand of your being here, that he may accept of you as men of vertue deserue. My Lord, answered the knight without rest, I beseech ye thus to aduertise his Maiestie, that there is no Gentleman more readie to his seruice, then I will be, and happie doe I account my selfe, if I can doe any thing worthy his good liking. In this warres against the King of *Pannonia* will I shew my selfe, and this Gentleman (pointing to Liboran) who long since lost his speech, by a catharre that bred within his thoroate: yet is not his vertue or prowesse any thing diminished, so: good
experience

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experience haue I had of his noble chivalrie. Liboran gathering by countenance of the knight without rest, ~~that~~ he vsed these words on his behalfe: with reuerence to the Gouerneur, gaue a signe with his head and hands, that he was likewise willing to make one in the Kings seruice, which he courteously accepting, embraced them both, being soe that Liboran had such an imperfection, so that long after he was called the dumbe knight. The Gouerneur walking with them in the great Hall, declared the whole cause of the warre, betwene the King his maister, and the King of *Pamonia*, and how within two or three dayes he meant to bid him battell.

As for the matter of their discord, it grew by this occasion: that the King of *Aquila* refused to giue his daughter Nonparelia in marriage to the King of *Pamonia*, nor the young Princesse her selfe could not be perswaded to like of him, by reason of the many bad qualities he was endued withall, as also he was a man verie much defourmed. In deede my Lord, answered the knight without rest, I haue oftentimes heard, that the Princesse Nonparelia is the flower of the world for beawtie, an ill match were it then, that so sweete a Lady should haue a husband so hard fauoured. And the onely cause of my coming into this Countrey, was to defend her hono: in this enterprised warre, as the Lady beyond all other in rare perfections. Soone after they sate downe to dinner, where wanted no store of costly delicacies: and the Tables were no sooner withdrawne, but there entred the Hall a comely aged Lady, her face all besprent with teares, and her sorrowfull looks bewraying the anguish of her spirit. A good while she stode viewing all the Lords, not speaking one word, till the Gouerneur moued with pitie, thus spake. Faire Lady, full well doth your countenance bewray, that something hath happened scant to your liking: boldly deliuer the cause of your sadness, and may I in any thing giue you redresse, be you assured I will perforce it.

Alas

Alas my Lord, quoth she, my case requireth present assistance, for my husband coming with his Sonne to this Citie, onely to aide the King in his warres, foure Knights set vpon them in the Forrest nere at hand, and binding them both hands and fete, haue forcibly caried them away, threating in most cruell sort to murder them, for some priuate displeasure conceiued against them. The knight without rest presently offered himselfe, desiring the Gouernour that he might redresse the Ladies wrong: and hauing obtained leaue for his departure, with Liboran, Lycelio, and Captaine Broantine, went immediately to horsebacke. So riding with the Lady, at length they ouertooke the foure Knights, who with great cudgels cruelly did beate the Ladies Husband and Sonne: whereat, the knight without rest highly offended, gaue h^{is} spurres to his horse to encounter w^{ith} them. But Liboran by signes, and Broantine by intreaties, perswaded him to suffer them deale with the foure Knights, which they did verie valiantly, and killing them all foure, deliuered the Knight and his Sonne safely to the Lady. Afterward they rode to the Knights Castell, where their wounds receiued in fight being searched and bound vp, they were esteemed as their vertues deserved, the good Lady vsing all the meanes she could deuise, to expresse her thankfulness for this noble courtesie. But the knight without rest still minded Nonparelia, thinking each houre a yere, till he might see her: and therefore praised as much as in him lay, the speedie recovery of Broantine, and Liboran, that he might set forward to the mistresse of his thoughts.

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CHAP. XXVIII.

¶ How the Knight without rest was conducted by *Broantine*, to the Pallace of the wise *Orbicomte* : and of the good entertainment she made him.

NOW haue our Knightes well rested themselves at the Castell, and being now readie to depart, while *Liboran* & *Lyceho* prepared euery thing readie : the Knight without rest, and *Broantine*, walked together in the Garden, where among many other matters, the Prince (perceiuing the faithfull affection of *Broantine*) betrayed his loue to him, which was the chief cause of his trauaile to *Aquile*. And as for the Princesse *Nonparelia*, quoth he, the renowne of her exceeding beawtie and vertue hath so conquered me, as I haue resolved neuer to loue any other : and might I purchase the fauour of her and the King her Father, I will repute my selfe the happiest man that euer liued. But true it is, and which groweth me not alittle, she differeth from me in religion, yet time that preuaileth against all things, may winne her to become a Christian. In sooth my Lord, answered *Broantine*, the Princesse *Nonparelia* is the most accomplished Lady living, both in beawtie, good grace, and all vertuous qualities : and well may you perswade your selfe to obtaine her loue, in that you are stored with those perfections, that may prouoke Ladies to loue a man. For if question should be made as concerning your estate, you are the childe of a King as well as she, not inferiour to him in riches and renowne. If the case be alleaged of your vertue, prowesse, and magnanimitie : my selfe will not be iudge herein, but innumerable that haue made experience thereof.

thereof. The Knight without rest hearing the words of Broantine, brake him off in this manner. Leave these prayes (good Sir) to God, to whome they onely pertain, and from whome cometh all the good we enioy: let vs imagine, by what meane she may haue knowledge of me, without preiudiciall daunger of whence and what I am. My Lord, quoth Broantine, I shall haue god accesse to the King, when I shall present you to his Maiestie: and then may you both see and speake to the Princesse, for she is very gracious and affable, what other streed I can stand ye in, untill the houre of death, you shall commaund me. For this gentlenes, answered the Knight without rest, I shall hereafter be carefull to make some part of recompente, and to begin our friendship, as also to prevent the name of ingratitude: I giue you the Countie of *Orthon*, which is my patrimoine, and which you shall freely enioy, if you like to goe with me into *England*. I thanke ye my Lord, quoth Broantine, for your liberall offer, let vs follow our intent to the King and madame Nonparelia, whom we shall finde at the Court with his Maiestie: where he expecteth the succour from *Illria*, which doubtlesse will be here within eightene dayes, for then must the battell be fought at *Baldana*. And as we trauaile thither, I will shew ye one of the these singularities in this Countrey, which is the Pallace of madame Orbiconte the wise, the most excellent and sumptuous spectacle that euer was scene. I pray thee good friend, said the Knight without rest, let vs depart and stay no longer, for such report haue I heard of that good Lady, as loth would I be to returne and not to see her, hauing so fit opportunitie to doo it: for since I came into this Countrey, I vnderstand that she is allyed to the King, being his sister, albeit base borne. Without any more speeches, they went forth of the Garden, and taking their leaue of the Knight and the Lady, mounted on horsebacke, directing their course toward *Baldana*: and after certaine dayes trauaile, they came to the Pallace of the wise Orbiconte,

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the building whereof was so rare and stately, as in all the world the like might not be found. Long stood the knight without rest to behold this wonder, which Orbiconte her selfe well perceived standing in her windowe, wherefoze she sent one to open the gate, and they entring, began to admire much more then they had done: seeing the great Court paved with Jasper and Porphyre, and in the midst thereof a gorgeous Statue, being the Goddesse Venus curiously carued in Alablaster, and from her two duggs spouted exceeding clere water, which fell into a huge great Basen of siluer.

By her stood her Sonne Cupid, with an arrowe drauue in his bowe, as being readie to shote: but so artificially framed after the life, as neuer was a more choyse peere of workemanship scene.

From thence they walked into meruailous goodly Galleries, which were painted round about with Poeticall Histories: as the contention betwene the three Goddeses, Pallas, Iuno, and Venus, the iudgement of Paris, the strange alteration of many metamorphosed louers, and the banquet of the Gods, where angry Tisiphone shewed her selfe.

On the other side were the labours of Hercules, the destruction of famous Troy, and the voyage of the Argonautes.

There likewise was liuely portrayed the triumph of Venus, drauue in her Chariot by two Turtle Doves, the loue of her Sonne Cupid and faire Psyche, the battailes of many Romaine Emperours, & their seuerall triumphs in Roome: so liuely figured to the eye, as if the persons had bene there in action.

While they thus stood to behold these deuises, the wise Orbiconte caused her three Daughters to attire themselves in most sumptuous ornaments, and afterward came downe with them into the Gallery: which when the knight without rest perceived, he came and saluted her with great reuerence, and after many sollemne and kinde courtesies

courtesies to the auncient Lady, as also her daughters, the wise Orbiconte thus spake.

Sir Palladine, right welcome are ye to this place: for long it is since I desired to see you here, that I might entertaine you as your vertues deserue.

Madame, answered the Knight without rest, vnseemely is it that you should so much abase your selfe, as to regard me that am but a poore Knight errant.

Not so my Lord, quoth she, conceale not your selfe, for well I knowe of whence and what you are: welcome are ye to my Pallace, where it shall be needlesse for ye to feare any thing, though you are so farre from your owne Countrey, for here you may assure your selfe of safetie. So entering into the great Hall, which was hanged round about with rich Tapistrie, wherein, the Histories of great Mahomet was curiously wrought: she welcommed them all againe, Broantine, Lycelio and Lyboran, who still counterfeited himselfe to be dumbe, to whome she said. My friend, speake your language and feare not, for in this place you are in no danger. I knowe that thou art Liboran the well aduised, who with the ayde of Captaine Broantine, deliuered a knight and his Sonne from death, therefore sake not to hide thy selfe from me.

When Liboran heard what she sayd, he imagined she was some Diuineresse, or one that had a familiar spirit, who acquainted her with matters of secrecie: wherefore in the French tongue he replied, thanking her for her exceeding courtesie, and offering her his vttermost seruice. For which, she was not forgetfull to thanke him, causing certaine of Gentlemen to conduct them to faire Chambers readie prepared for them: and in the Chamber appointed for the Knight without rest, was ingeniously wrought in Tapistrie of cloth of gold, the adulterie of Venus with God Mars, and how lame Vulcane came and found them, with diuers other lasciuious Histories, to prouoke the Prince to carnall delight.

The plealant Hiltorie

After the Knight without rest was unarmed, he came and walked with the wise Orbiconte in her Garden, wher in were many beawtifull fountaines, and great abundance of wholesome hearbes, wherewith she made precious vngvents, which she sent to Knightes errant, especially such as defended the honoꝝ of Ladies. She walked with them likewise into her Parke, and shewed them what braue game she had there prouided, with all other deuises incident to delight, onely to allure the Knight without rest to stay there, till she had perfourmed her intent foꝝ her Daughters, which within few dayes after she cunningly compassed in this manner.

The wise Orbiconte calling her Daughters to her, the first whereof being named Junona, the second Palladia, and the third Veneria: gaue them especiall charge, to vse themselves in such sozt to the Knight without rest, that he might enter into that familiar acquaintance with them, as each thing might sozt according to her determination.

And one night while the Knightes and her Daughters were dauncing, she walked into her Garden, hauing in her hand a little Booke of parchement, couered ouer with black veluet: there frained she such spellles and charmes, and with secret muttering to her selfe, sent such a coniuration abroade, as nothing should preuent what she had concluded. Now doe the Knightes repaire to their chambers, thinking to rest themselves as they did the nightes before, and so in deede did Broantine, Liboran, and Liccho, foꝝ their chambers were so charmed, as they could not awake till the next day was verie farre spent: but as foꝝ the Knight without rest, while he soundly slept, and thought no harme, Junona in her night mantle came to visit him, and so well (it seemed) they agreed together, as the *English* Prince had the honoꝝ of her virginittie. Palladia and Veneria follo wed their Sister in fortune, the issue whereof was such, as when time came of natures appointment, they were deliuered of three goodly Sonnes, named Clarisco, Clarifardo,

Clarifardo, and Clarifano. These three children were carefully nourished, and in their life time performed knightly deedes of armes, whereof we will speake hereafter as occasion serueth.

By this time had the Knight without rest remained here seuen dayes, when Orbiconte knowing by her arte, that the King her Brother would bid his enemy battell within foure daies, she came to the Prince in this manner.

Sir Palladine, seeing your affection is so forward, that you will assist my Brother in this warre against the King of *Paronia*, it is now high time to thinke on your departure, for I can assure ye, that within foure dayes the fight will begin. Nor can I entertaine any doubt or sorrow for the matter, because I haue already foresene, that our enemy will sustaine great detriment, losse and destruction onely by your noble and worthy behaviour, prepare ye therefore to set forward to morrow.

Madame, answered the Knight without rest, if it like you we will depart presently, the sooner shall we come to our iourneys end. Not so, quoth she, you shall be ruled by my direction, for you haue time enough to trauaile thither. So taking him and his friends into her Cabinet, she gaue the Prince a meruailous costly Greene Armour, to Broantine she gaue one of Azure couller, with a Shield, wherein was portrayed, how he deliuered the Knight and his Sonne from death: and to Liboran she gaue a carnation Armour, figuring in his Shield, the Shepheards life he led by the Castell of Brulanfurior. As for you Sir Palladine, quoth she, I will not giue you any Shield, because, that you haue already is better then any one here, yea, beyond all other in the world, except one that is at London before your Fathers Pallace, which is reserved for one as yet vnborne, whose father and Mother I knowe not, or the place from whence he is descended. After many other familiar speeches, the knight without rest thus spake to the wise Orbiconte.

Madame,

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Madame, because I am loth to trouble your rest in the morning, I and my friends will now take our leave of you, requesting you to dispose of me at your pleasure, in that I haue dedicated my life to your seruice.

Sir Palladine, answered Orbiconte, I know that my longe desires are now sufficiently acquitted, and your readie good will I haue tried and found: depart in the morning what time you please, and still will I aduertise ye as concerning my affaires, ayding you to my power in all places where you shall come, especially to obtaine your destenied honoꝝ. Thus went the Knight without rest and his friends to their chambers, where passing the night in some sleepes, they arose early in the morning, and mounting on horsebacke, they rode away merrily. But the Knight without rest remembꝛed, how this night he had not bene visited with his accustomed dreames, noꝝ could he forget the words of the wise Orbiconte at his departure, when she said, that her long desires were sufficiently acquitted, whereby he began to suspect, that she by enchantment had caused him companie with her Daughters, but not knowing certainly what to thinke, he remoued his thoughts to matter of moꝝe valew.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIX.

¶ Of the cruell battell betweene the Kings of *Aquilea* and *Panonia*, wherein, the Knight without rest, *Broantine*, and *Liboran*, shewed worthy and knightly deedes of Armes. And what gracious enteraynement the King of *Aquilea*, his Daughter *Nonparelia*, and the Princes her Brethren made them afterward.

THE day being come, that the encamped powers of *Aquilea* and *Panonia* should meet: *Almiden*, and *Zorian*, Sonnes to the King of *Aquilea*, accompanied with the Dukes of *Sclauonia* and *Liburnia*, rounge their forces in order of battell, the King their Father being not able to be present, because he lay sick in the Citie of *Aquilea*, where he was carefully attended by the Quene, and her faire Daughter.

It was then concluded, that the Prince *Almiden* should leade the auantgard, the Duke of *Sclauonia*, and the Prince *Zorian* the maine battell, and the Duke of *Liburnia* the artergard: then were a legion of *Dalmatians* and *Albanoyes* appointed for the wings, being expert warrours with their Darts aboue all other nations.

On the other side, the King of *Panonia*, his Sonne, the Princes of *Misia* and *Dace*, with the Duke of *Dardania* their confederate, hauing passed the *Alban Mountains*, were encamped within a league of *Baldina*. And of this Armie, the King himselfe was the leader, hauing in his companie a Giant named *Muzimalde*, the mightiest man in stature that euer was seene, who bare a huge mace of Steele twelue fote in length, being answerable in weight to the greatnes thereof.

The plealant Hiltorie

The Princes of *Misra* and *Dace* had charge of the maine battell, and the Duke of *Dardania* the arriergard, with two thousand *Thracians* ordained in the wings, which were newly come to giue them succour.

Thus doe these Armies with furie encounter together, and great hauock is made on either side, especially the *Aquileans* were in greatest ieopardie.

But now the Knight without rest, Broantine, Liboran, and certaine Gentlemen appointed by the wise Orbiconte to accompanie them, arriue in the field, and seeing that side goe to wracke, for whose assistance they trauailed thither: like Lyons and no men they thrust among the thickest, where breaking the aray of their enemies, no one durst stand before them, but paid his life for ransome of his boldnes. At length, the Knight without rest encountred the huge Muzimalde, and though the weightie strokes of his mace did often put the Prince in danger, yet by policy and fine chivalrie, in the end he got the better of the Giant, sending his soule to the Deuill whome he resembled.

The *Pannonians* at this sight were greatly disheartened, finding themselves unable to hold out any longer: so the Dukes of *Sclauonia* and *Liburnia* took many noble prisoners, among whome were the Princes of *Dace* and *Dardania*, the Duke of *Misra* being slaine by the hand of the Prince Almuden, and the rest of the *Pannonians* with shame diuen to flight.

When the honor of the day was thus fallen to the *Aquileans*, the two Princes Almuden and Zorian, sent for the knight without rest and his companions: whome after they had embraced, they desired to goe with them to the King their Father, who should remunerate the great paines they had taken. And that his Maiestie might vnderstand their good successe, a Courier was sent before in all haste, and being brought into the Kings chamber, where the Quene and Nonparelia were present, he deliuered his letters, wherein the Princes had not spared to
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report the worthie deedes of the knight without rest, and theirs likewise that came in his companie, so that the King demaunded of whence and what the knight was, who in his cause had behaued himselfe so brauely, whereto the messenger thus answered.

My Lord, it is as yet vnknowne of whence he is, yet this I can assure ye, that he is one of the most goodly Gentlemen that euer I sawe. And in the Arme it is reported, that had not he come when he did, and your Capitaine isroantine with other in their companie, your wastellie had lost the day: for our avantgard being broken, the Giant Mazimalde laid on such load, as horse and man he strooke to the ground. But at the arrivall of this knight, even as some God had taken humane shape upon him, our courage encreased, the huge Giant by his hand was slaine, and all the rest stood amazed, as doubting to fight, or turne their backs.

When the King of *Pannonia* (who was in person in the battell) sawe the onely man he trusted in thus comforted, with his Sonne, and five hundred men, he set furiously upon vs, meaning to reuenge the Giants death if he could: but this heate lasted not long, for our men seeing the incredible magnanimitie of this knight and his companions, followed him with such alacritie of courage, as the King and all his men were drizen on a heape, and had not a sudden winde and extreame stoyne fallen among vs, the King and his Sonne had bene slaine or taken. But the weather beating upon our faces, we could not discern which way they fled, till we espied them on the tops of the Mountaines: whereupon this knight and his companions made after them, killing many of them among the hilles, and brought bathe with them fiftene prisoners. For conclusion, I thinke our great Prophet sent this knight, by whome, the Princes your Souldiers and all our liues are saued.

The good King was so glad of these tidings, as he took

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A rich chaine from his arme, and gave it the messenger, earnestly desiring to see the Knight without rest, that he might account of him as his vertues deserved: and forthwith he commaunded through his Realme, a generall reioycing should be made for this happie victorie, with bonfires, ringing of belles, and such like signes of gladnes.

The Princesse Nonparelia, hearing the messenger so highly extoll the knight without rest, became immediatly amorous of him: longing for the returne of her Brethren, that she might see the image of her desire.

On the morrow, the King commaunded all his Estates, to goe meete his Sonnes, and the Knight without rest, charging them to honoꝛ him, as they would doo him selfe: which they fulfilled effectually, as in the Chapter following you shall behold.

CHAP. XXX.

How the Aquilean Princes, and the Knight without rest arrived at the Court, and their gracious entertainement by the King, Queene, and faire Nonparelia.



Great haste made the Princes of Aquilea to the Courte, that they might present the Knight without rest, to the King their father, and when they drew nare the Citie, such a multitude of people met them on the way, to see the Knight so highly renowned, as they could not ride on for the pzease & throng.

At the Citie gates, they were welcommed with many learned Orations, all the streets being hanged with costly Tapistry, as it had bene to entertaine the greatest Monarch in the world. And the good old King, very weake and cragie by reason of his late sickness, came in person to the Pallace

Wallace gate, accompanied with all the Princes & Lords of his Court, when his two Sonnes hauing humbly kissed his hand, the Knight without rest would haue done the like, but the King would not permit him, wherefore he embraced him in his armes, as though he had bene as great a state as himselfe.

Gentle Knight, quoth he, welcome and follick in our Court, for such report haue I heard of your vertue and prowess, as neuer was I more desirous of any thing, then to see that worthy man, who with honorable paines laboured in my seruice, hazarding your life and person, for him that neuer deserved such fauour and friendship.

My Lord, answered the Knight without rest, this gracious kindnesse exceedeth all report, in deigning to accept of me so honorably, I being but a poore and simple Knight errant, readie to passe straights of death in your seruice. Ah my Sonne, sayd the King, death hast thou already aduentured for me, for which I cannot returne sufficient recompence: yet if I cannot requite you effectually, my god will shall not want wheresoever you be, in meane time, aske what you will, and be assured to speede. So taking him by the one hand, and his Sonne Alinden by the other, he went vp into the great Hall, where the Quene, the Princesse, and all the Courtly Ladies, being choisely tricked in their bruest accoustrements, welcommed them with meruailous kindnesse, especially Nonparelia, who shined like the morning Starre among the other virgins, her courtesies to the Prince exceeded all comparison.

These Courtly ceremonies ouerpassed, the Knights were conducted to their chambers, to refresh themselves, and change their habites, while the roiall supper was preparing. Now was the Knight without rest thoroughly set to worke, with consideration of the Princesse supernaturall beautie, and longer would he haue continued in this rauishing studie: but that the Prince Zorian came to aduertise him, that the King stayed onely his coming. So

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walked they together into the great Hall, where the King caused the Knight without rest to sit next him at the table, and the Princesse Nonparelia right ouer against him: a thing to her no little contentation, that she might behold the worthie personage, who had gained the onely priuiledge of her heart. All supper time, these two louers fed on no other viands, then the one regarding the other with piercing looks: for their amorous affections so ouermaisterd their senses, as they forgot to receiue any sustenance. The supper ended, the Lords and Ladies of the Court fell to dauncing: meane while, the Princesse Nonparelia hauing noted the gracious behauiour of the Knight without rest, took the hardines vpon her to come nere him, and hauing with great modestie saluted him, thus spake.

As I vnderstand Sir Knight, the King my father and all his are highly beholding to you, in respect of your honorable paines in the late battell against our enemies.

Alas Madame, quoth he, if I had not as then borne present, yet doubtlesse you had bene assured of victorie, little then is the glorie that I haue deserued.

Wherein you must pardon me Sir, answered the Princesse, for I haue heard credibly reported, that but for you we had lost the day: yet let me intreate so much fauour, as to tell me of whence you are, and what might be the occasion of this great kindnesse, that for my fathers sake you should so gladly thrust your life into danger.

Madame, quoth he, so long since did your diuine name overcome me, and such is your present authoritie ouer me, as death shall not make me conceale or disguise the truth to you. Knowe then swete Lady, and hold it for certaine, that nothing procured me to assist the King your father in his late warres, but onely your loue, beautie, and god grace: all which I haue heard so generally commended, as now I confesse report hath not feigned.

In sooth my Lord, quoth she, such vertues as you speake of, are hard to be found in me, but let it be as you please to alleadge;

alleadge, yet no one is so much bound to thanke you as my selfe: for if the King my Father had lost the honoꝝ of the battell, too late had it bene for me to renew the peace, falling into the subiection of the verie worst man in the world, to whome my selfe denied the request of marriage, and hence hence grew the warre betwene my Father and the King of *Pannonia*.

So much good Madame, quoth he, did I heare before, by the Gouvernour of *Enna*, and the wise Lady Orbiconte, who intreated me and my companie verie honozably at her Pallace, and if in this action I haue done you any seruice, I account my labour well bestowed, and repute my selfe beyond all other in fortune: hauing disappointed a Prince so contrarie to the vertues and perfections, wherewith your gracious nature is accompanied, for a man of so bad conditions, ought to haue sorted out one like to himselfe.

In dede my Lord, quoth she, you haue said the truth, notwithstanding, his euill disposed and deformed bodie made me not refuse him, but his great defect of vertue and honestie: for the gifts of the mind are to be preferred before those of nature, yet was he acquainted neither with the one or other. Longer would they haue continued in talke, but that the King commaunded to cease the dauncing, because the Knightes should goe rest themselves in their chambers, wherefore the Princesse (breathing a vehement sigh from her inward soule) gaue the courteous good night to the Knight without rest, who hauing deuoutly kissed her faire white hand, followed the King to his lodging, and there committing his highnesse to the fauour of the night, was by the two Princes brought to his chamber, they both louing him as he had bene their brother, especially Zorian the yongest, who determined to accompanie him when he left the Court, and to seeke aduentures with him as a Knight errant.

As each one thus departed to his lodging, the Princesse called

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called Broantine to her, and enquired of him what and of whence the knight without rest was.

Madame, quoth Broantine, at this time I can hardly satisfie you, yet thus much I dare assure ye, as I vnderstand by the wise Lady Orbiconte, that he is descended of royall linage, and one that I am especially bound to, hauing receiued unspeakable fauours at his hands.

In sooth, said the Princesse, he may well be said to proceede of royall parentage, in that his ordinarie behaniour declares no lesse: but do you knowe the cause of his coming into this Countrey, so slenderly accompanied, and why he entred a quarrell nothing concerning himselfe?

The cause (as I haue heard) good Madame, quoth Broantine, was the renowne of a Ladies beautie, famed throught the world to excell the fairest.

At these words, the Princesse began bashfully to blush, seeing these speaches agreed with those the Prince himselfe spake, which encreased the auroous fire already kindled in her heart: and that did Broantine very well perceiue, yet he dissembled as though he knew nothing. So departed the Princesse to her chamber, and Broantine went presently to the knight without rest, to whome, he reuealed his talke with Nonparelia, aduising him to follow a matter so well begun, for there was hope of good successe to be expected. The Prince embracing Broantine, gaue him thanks for his friendly tidings: and the next day happened a notable occasion, both to the honoꝝ of the knight without rest and to assure him of the Princesse. For Sulbern cousin to the Giant Muzimalde came and challenged the Combate, against him that slew his kinsman: which the knight without rest accepting, in open field ouercame his proude enemy, and thereby wonne the especiall good liking of the King and the whole Court. Yet was not this Combate fought without great daunger, in respect Sulbern was a man in stature equall to Muzimalde, and two such monstrous aduersaries, would put an approued champion to his

his triall: but though the Knight without rest was verie sore wounded, and many times brought in hazard of his life, yet at length he bare away the honoꝝ of the feld, and the head of his enemy as a present to his mistresse. So both Venus lighten all her Lampes, and the religious lovers approach her altars, offering up the incense of semblable affections: she triumphing in the loue of so brave a knight, and he glorying in the onely Dame so beautie, the successe whereof hereafter ensueth.

CHAP. XXXI.

¶ How the Princessse Nonparelia came to visit the Knight without rest, what talke they had together. And how the wife Orbicorre came to the Court, who healed the Princes woundes he received in the Combate.



Verie dangerous were the woundes of the knight without rest, and therefore he was constrained to keepe his chamber eight dayes together, in which time, the Princessse Nonparelia sent often to vnderstand of his health, and went her selfe (as opportunity serued) to see how he did. But that which most of all grieved these two louers, was, that they could not conferre together so secretly as they would: for she neuer went to him without companie of her Ladies, whome she was loth to acquaint with her amorous desires. At length, as one desirous to be resolued of his affection towards her, one day she withdrew her selfe into her chamber, feigning to repose her selfe there all the after none, hauing but two of her waiting Gentlewomen with her, the rest were sporting in the Garden and Orchard: and from her chamber she could goe to the Princes lodging, through the great Gal-

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leries vnlike of any, wherefore, accompanied with her two Damoels, she came to the knight without rest, finding no bodie with him but Liboran, who generally through the Court was reputed dumbe, he seeing the Princesse, presently gaue place, walking to the windowe with the two Gentlewomen, where with signes and gestures he deuised with them, they taking great pleasure to behold him, pitying his imperfection, because he was of stature comely, and gentle in conditions.

While they thus beguiled the time with Liboran, their mistresse seeing she might safely conferre with the knight without rest, sate downe in a chaire by his bed side, and taking his hand to feele his pulses, giuing a great sigh, thus spake.

Alas my Lord, pitie it is that honorable kindnes should be so hardly requited, and though your conning hither hath benefited the King and vs all, yet may you curse our acquaintance, being bought at a price so deere and dangerous.

Not so good Madame, answered the knight without rest, I rather thinke the heauens specially fauoured me, in directing my trauaile to this happie countrie: were it onely but to see you swete Lady, that mine eyes might behold the rare perfections, wherewith mine eares could neuer be glatted.

You speake your pleasure of me my Lord, answered the Princesse, but were I endued with those titles which you giue me, yet are they farre inferiour to your noble desarts. But leaue this talke my Lord, and tell me how ye fare? and how you feele your wounds recouered? so: nothing do I more desire, then to see you well and free from danger. Alas Madame, quoth he, the wounds I receiued in the combate against Sulberne, are nothing in respect of that I toke when I saue you first.

The Princesse well understanding his meaning, yet feigning the contrarie, thus replied.

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Why doe you not then acquaint the Kings Chirurgions therewith, who are reputed the most skilfull in all this Countrey: tell them your paine, and feare not, for all diseases are easily healed when they be soon taken in hand, and not suffered to enter the bodie too farre. Or if you will not declare it to them, thinking (perhaps) they can give you no remedie, boldly may you reueale it to me, as to the most secret friend you haue in the world. And this I dare assure ye, that if your grieue may be cured by humane capacity, my Aunt the wise Orbiconte can doe it effectually: and for her will I presently send a messenger, who will not faile to make all possible speede hither.

The knight without rest well noting the Princesse words, was so ramished in conceite, as he was not able to make any answer: but deliuering many a bitter sigh from the bottome of his hart, he lay as one confounded in a trance. Why my Lord: quoth she, what thinke you on? dare you not discouer your distaste to me? if you distrust me, I will binde my selfe to you by a sollemne othe, neuer to reueale it to any liuing creature: but will keepe it as secret as your dumbe frände that cannot speake, nor shall the riches of the worlde make me breake my promise.

The Knight without rest would yet make no answer, but still sighing, with wonderfull affection behelde the Princesse: who now changing her cullour, and with the teares triking downe her chokes, continued her speeches thus. Beloeue me my Lord, me thinkes (vnder correction) you doe me wronge, in fearing to beioyane your grieue to me, I beseeche ye (if you beare me any good will at all) not to make your harne incurable by defaulte of better raunce to your frände, and consider that silence is the pursse of many malladies: where contrariwise, disclosing the same in time, the danger is with ease prevented. The wordes of the Princesse, deliuered with such zealous protestations, and with so many gracions offers: caused the Knight without rest (setting all doubtfull feares aside)

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thus to answer. Madame seeing you haue conured me in such sorte, and haue sollemnlye promised withall, to conceale the griefe that torments me, and cannot be seene: I will make known my harme vnto you. And as he would haue proceeded, a Gentleman entred the Chamber, to aduertise the Princesse that the wise Orbiconte was newly arriued, and that she came to visit the Knight without rest. As the Princesse was going to welcome her Aunt, she met her at the Chamber doore, and comming in againe with her, after she had humblye saluted her, she brought her to the Beds side, the Knight without rest being not a little glad to see her, in consideration of the promise she made him at her Pallaise. Courage my Sonne quoth Orbiconte, for ere three dayes be past, I will make your woundes whole and sound, especially that which toucheth your heart. It is not to be asked, whether these wordes pleased him or no, and she looking on his woundes, anointed them with a precious ointement, which healed them in suche sorte, as in foure and twentye howers the skarres could hardly be seene: then merilye to her piece she thus spake. Do not you hate this Knight, faire piece, that hath kept you from marrying with the King of *Panopolis*? Welcome me good Aunt, answered the Princesse, I am more beholding to this Knight then to any man els liuing, for he hath saued my life and hono^r: and may I any way recompence his gentleness, he shall perceiue that I will not be ingratefull. But while the King my father labourerth to requite his paines, let him be perswaded of my good will toward him.

Madame quoth the Prince, so you continue me in your good grace, I thinke my selfe better recompenced, if I haue deserued any recompence at all: then were I presentlye created Emperour of the worlde. To breake off their conference, a Squire came, who saide that the Tables were couered for Supper, wherfore Orbiconte and the Princesse took their leaue, and went into the great hall, where the

The King and the Queene stayed their coming, who wel-
comed their Sister with mirrourious kindenes, spending
the time of Supper with repetition of many matters. The
Tables were no sooner with-drawn, but Orbiconte ta-
king her Niece aside to one of the windowes, began with
her in this manner.

Since my coming hither faire Niece, I haue percei-
ued that some thing tormentes ye exceedingly: reueale the
occasion thereof to me, and if I may stand ye in any strae-
ge for your helpe, be well assured I will doe it right willingly.
The Princesse at these wordes was so affrayed, as she
was not able to shape any answer: but shaking like a
leafe on the tree, her cullour went and came very strange-
lye, such was her feare that her lone should be discouered.
And hauing stayed in this quandarie a good while, at last
she perswaded her selfe, that her Aunt by her secret know-
ledge vnderstood her griefe, wherefore with the teares in
her eyes, she thus replied.

Let me intreate you good Aunt, to suffer me endure
my mishap in silence, without constraining me to tell ye,
from whence my great alteration proceedeth: it is vertue
in a maiden to suffer patiently, and shame to betwape her
owne thoughtes, though euery hower addeth a toozde of
miseric, and burdeneth her minde with more then com-
mon cares. Yet this I would haue ye to thinke, that my
extremeties (as yet) haue not stretched so farre, but to
make me skilfull in iudging of a passion: from which here-
tofoze I haue defended my selfe indifferently, accounting
it an offence to modestie, to heare so much as speech therof.
Orbiconte desirous rather to encrease her passion then any
way to diminishe it, thus recomforted her.

Don doe well (good Niece) in respect of your calling, to
conceale the tormentes you endure, and which my arte ac-
quainted me withall ere I came hither, for it is a signe of
speciall gouernement, to be carefull of disclosing such a se-
cret, as carieth greatest regard among all women. But if

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you are so liuely touched with loue, as your gentle hart may be enpaired therby, by meanes of the worthy Knight without rest, who hath done more for you, then all your Faithers subiectes could without him: you must vnderstand, that this is a disease common to euery one, no; are you alone, o; the first that hath felte the surie of this passion, but many noble Ladies (bathesfull and right modestlye gouerned) haue felt the power of the God of Loue, who ruleth and commaundeth when and where him pleaseeth. For this cause expect the good houre, and before your infirmitie raichle too farre, giue order and remedie thereto in the best soyte you can. I think it not amisse, that you make some experience of Lones authoritie, but you haue let him enter too farre within your hart. that euen your very soule is penetrated therewith: the best and most auayling counsaile I can giue ye, is to practise some chaste and honest meane, wherby to enioy the summe of your desire, and so shall you preuent infamie and dishonour, which euery creature ought carefully to auoide.

Alas Madame, quoth the Princesse, I know no mean more honest then the mariage of him and I together, but how can that be compassed: o; what honour is it to me to moue any speeche therof: he is a stranger, vnknoen to me of whence o; what he is, I am not acquainted with so much as his name. Assure your selfe faire Piece and we red Orbiconte, that he is Sonne to a most vertuous King, as greatly renowned as any one in the world: and further I will tell ye as concerning him, so you will promise and sweare to me to keep it secret, so; otherwise you shall put him in great danger of his life.

Ah good Aunt, quoth Nonparella, rather let me dye ten thousand deaths, then be the cause of any displeasure to him: therfore acquainte me with his estate, and I will be directed by you in all my after opinions. But by reason that the King arose and went to his Chamber, their talke brake off, the Quene and her daughter conducting Orbi-

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conte to her lodging: so remained the Princesses principle all that night, and earnestly longing for the morning, that she might end the talke betwene her Aunt and her, for further knowledge of the Knight without rest: who likewise was no lesse forward in desire, because after supper he had not seene the Princess and Orbiconte.

CHAP. XXXII.

How the wise Orbiconte tolde the Princess Nonpareil, what and who the Knight without rest was: and how by her meanes, promise of mariage passed between them,



Orbiconte being in her Chamber, was both pleased and somewhat offended: pleased, in that she had sounded the thoughts of her Aunt; and offended, because she had not concluded her tale, concerning the knight without rest. But no sooner was morning come, when the princess sent many times to knowe if her Aunt were stirring, and so soon as she was assured thereof: she went to her Chamber, where having given her the good morrowe, she saide: Madame, I haue not forgotten the promise you made me yesternight. Neither haue I god piece answered Orbiconte, therfore presently will I be as good as my worde. So walking with her into the Wardrobe, and being none but them schues together, she began her discourse as followeth.

Faire piece, vnder assurance of the promise you made me yester night, I giue you to vnderstand, that the Knight without rest is a Christian, Sonne to the King of England, and his right name is Palladine, giuen him in hono^r of the wise Goddess Pallas. And I hauing foresene ere the time of his birth, that he should be the most vertuous and valiant,

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ant Prince of his time, and the Children engendred by him, ſhould very farre excell all other whatſoeuer: I then made choiſe of him to be your Husband, ſeing your ſpothe likewiſe at that time great with Childe, and ſhe deliuered of you ſixe monthes after his birthe. That mine intent might ſorte to effect, and to make you the onely happy Lady of the world, by enioying a Husband the paragon among all Princes: I ſollicited him by dreams and nightly viſions, yea, by letters and meſſages in ſuch ſorte, as by my meanes he trauailed hether, deſirous to ſee that rare beautye, wherewith I renowned you beyond all other Ladies. And had it not ben for my diligent adimouition, he had ere this time bene married to faire Roſamonde of *Fraunce*: where record remaineth of his famous chualrie, as it doth in many other places of the world. But needeſſe is it to ſe many wordes in this matter, you knowe that I deſire nothing more then your aduancement, and no man in the worlde is more accompliſhed with all perfections, either in riches, vertue, beaue minde, and all other good qualities: ſo that if my iudgement faile me not, I think him equal to you euery way, & more worthy to enioy you then any other. If you be deceiued Madame, ſaid the Princeſſe, much more muſt I be then, for me thinkes it is impoſſible to finde his ſecond: ſo would you haue ſaid, had you but ſene his valiant combate with the Giant Sulberne. If then quoth Orbiconte, you knowe ſo well what he is, he louing you as his own life, & you him in like ſorte: I would aduiſe ye, with all ſpede to conſumate the marriage betwene ye, albeit vniſoluen to the King & Queene, and let me deale for their good will afterward. Alas Madame, quoth the Princeſſe, herin would I willingly obey ye: but that in religion we are too farre a ſunder. For that take you no care ſaide Orbiconte, in that beſore it be long, all your Fathers Kingdomes ſhall be conuerted to Chriſtianitie: therefore boldelye make promiſe to the knight, that you will be baptiſed ſo ſoon as you come

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come into *England*, he hauing first solemnely sworne to marrie with you, as well I knowe he hath no other intent. Wherewith shall his parents be well pleased, and yours hereafter likewise: for then and not before they shall vnderstand, that this is for your eternall honoꝛ and profit. Nonparelia, who desired nothing moꝛe then the conquest of his loue (and withall, the swete benefite ensuiuing thereby) whome she had made Loꝛd and maister of her heart, thus answered.

I knowe Madame, that my honoꝛable preferment is the full of your intent, and that you will sheld me from any blemish or reproch: I therefore commit all to your discretion, and will obey whatsoeuer you commaund me. This night then, said Orbiconte, shall you be assured of your louely knight, and holy bowes of mariage shall be passed between you: afterward, agree as you can your selues, for I will accomplish what I haue promised. So went they both to the Princes chamber, where they found him walking with Captaine Broantine, one that knew the deapth of his desire, yet ignorant what Orbiconte and the Princesse had concluded. Many deuoute courtesies passed betwene them, and Orbiconte taking the Prince aside, thus spake to him. You remember (my Loꝛd) your vowe, when you called your selfe the Knight without rest, that you would neuer entertaine quiet of minde, till you had found your onely beloued in the world, to whome you were denied before your birth: now be of good cheere, for this night shall you be resolved of the Lady, who being free in affection from all other, doth honoꝛ you with the vnspotted loue of a virgin, esteeming of you as her Loꝛd and husband. No meruaile if these newes were welcome to the Knight without rest, who giuing credit to the words of Orbiconte, sealed many a swete kisse on the daintie lippes of Nonparelia, as pledges of a full contract in the sight of heauen; not to be recalled but by death onely. Shoyt tale to make, Orbiconte that night brought them together, and ioyned

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their hands with solitarie and sacred bowes, he to carie her with him into *England*, and she there to receiue the faith of a Christian. And thus will we leaue them in their amorous purposes, each comforting other with the arguments of loue: and now let vs returne to the Princes and knightes, whome we left in *France*, *England*, and else where.

CHAP. XXXIII.

¶ How the Prince *Don Robert* of *Freeze*, surnamed the Knight of *Fame*, hauing taken his leaue of the King *Milanor* of *England*, and *Lydisco*, the Prince of *Hungaria*: found a Knight wounded to the death, and what hapned to him afterward.



¶ I remember how the Knight of *Fame*, being vanquished, and sore wounded by the Prince *Palladine*, at *Joullis* which *Caesar* maintained for loue of the faire *Rosamond*: departed with *Lydisco* of *Hungaria*, and crossed the *Sea* into *England*, where they were graciously entertained by the King *Milanor*, to whome *Lydisco* presented Letters from the Prince his Sonne, and an other from *Landaftines* to his Daughter *Florea*.

These two Princes hauing sojourned awhile in the Court of *England*, toke leaue of the King and the Ladyes, and afterward sundered themselves in trauaile, *Lydisco* iorneying toward *Hungaria* to see the King his Father, who (as he vnderstood) was fallen into a verie dangerous disease. And the Knight of *Fame*, coasting through a part of *Britayne* and *Normandie*, went to *Burdeaux*, and from thence into *Spayne*: as much to expell the mellancholly, which the reuembzance of faire *Rosamonde* charged his thoughts

thoughts withall, as also to make proufe of his valour against the Knightes of *Spayne*, who accounted themselves the most valiant in *Europe*.

Being thus landed in *Spayne*, he trauailed through diuers ffoxes, till night overtaking him, he was constrained to alight, while his squire cut down certaine boughes of trees, for his master to rest himselfe upon. After they had laid themselves downe as willing to sleepe, not farre from them they heard the voice of a man, bratching forth many bitter and dolorous complaints, and as it seemed to them, he was nigh his end, for his words faultred in the utterance, as wanting abilitie to deliuer them, whereupon the knight of frame awaking his squire, said: dost thou not heare one complaine very grievously? I be my Lord, answered the squire, and belike he is in some great danger. I pray thee then, quoth Don Roher, let him go a little nearer, that we may vnderstand what he saith. So displaying on their helmes to and beholds, they walked fast to the place where they heard the voice, when they might heare him continue his complaints in this manner.

Unhappy that I am, must I needs die by the traitorous hand of him whom I trusted as mine owne selfe: Ah wretch, why dost thou not tell me thy cruell purpose? it might be, I should haue found me another satisfied here: or if thou hadst yielded me better reason, I might haue desisted from my pursuit. In suite: alas I had, all the torment in the world, shall not liue: canst thou not see your gracions loue, nor death it selfe, which I feele hath already entered me, a monstrous treason, a false dissembling and traitorous *Christiane* I praye. What say I? Prince: if thou be a Prince, thou art one of the very worst that euer liued.

Almy Lord quoth the squire to this wounded knight, you may well beleue and hold so: certaine, as I haue sayd to you many times, that loue can abide no companion: so by the often coming and going of this traytour to *Da-*

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Dame Minoretta. he could not but seeke to deceiue ye, and to frustrate the hope you had in her: all which you must now endure with patience, seeing we are all subiect to fortunes changes.

If fortune then reward me with death, quoth the Knight, iustly may I accuse her of treason, as one that procureth all the mischiefs in the world. Ah traiteresse and weakefull Lady, why didst thou not suffer me to enjoy that honoꝝ, which her diuine nature and beaultie had grounded in my heart, and whereto I was solemnely vowed and dedicated: Alas, I feele my strength more and more to forsake me. Ah Minoretta, Minoretta. what wilt thou say when thou hearest of my misfortune: I feare thy loue is rated at the price of thy life. Wærelwith his speach failed him, and breathing forth a vehement sigh, he yelded vp the ghost. O my God, said his Squire, what shall I now do: where shall I bestowe the dead bodie of my maister: if I returne to the Court of the King his brother, he will suspect that I haue murdered him. Ah swete Lady Minoretta, what hart breaking will this be to you, vnderstanding the death of my Lord, and the occasion thereof. The Knight of Fame hearing the sorrowfull words of the Squire, and fearing he would depart and leaue his maister: came with his Squire from behinde the tree where they were hid, and seeing the wofull man holding his dead maister in his armes, thus spake to him. Tell me god friend, how did this mishap befall thy maister: The Squire was so amazed, when by the light of the Moone he beheld the Knight of Fame, and his Squire with him, both their swords being drawne: as he was not able to returne any answer, wherby Don Robert perceiued, that the sudden sight of him affrighted the Squire, wherefoze he thus spake to him againe. Why dost thou not speake to vs, my friend: doubttest thou that we come to do thee any displeasure: perswade thy selfe, that we will assist thee to our bittermost, and therefore feare not to bewray the mishap,

mischance. The Squire thoroughly resolved by these courteous speeches, casting forth many bitter sighes into the aire, and trembling as the burthen of his grasse gaue cause, thus answered. Alas my Lord, right gladly shall I reueale to you, the great misfortune now happened to my Lord, who (as you saue) gaue vp his ghost betwene mine armes, the occasion whereof grew in this manner.

My noble maister while he liued, was bastard brother to the King of Sicilie, yet as dearly beloued of his Maiestie, as if he had bene his lawfull legitimate brother, such was his vertuous and valiant behaviour: and for the King would assure my Lord of his intire good will and affection, he gaue him the Signorie of *Siracusa*, with all the titles and benefites belonging thereto. But my worthy Lord and maister, who was named Don Frionell, hauing about sixe moneths since heard commended, the excellent beautie of Minoretta, Daughter to the King of *Portugall*: became so enamoured of her, as to compasse the means that he might see her, he craued leaue of the King his brother to trauaile into *France*, as a knight errant, seeking after aduentures. Hauing obtained licence for his departure, in stead of going to *France*, he toke the way toward *Portugall*, where being arriued, so well he made knowne his prowesse at the Tilt and Tourney, which dayly he maintained in honoz of the Princesse, as the King entertaining him into especiall fauour: all the Lords and Knights of *Portugall* did the like, so that being well esteemed and honozed of euery one, chiesely of the Quene and her Ladies, so well he could his Courtship to the Princesse Minoretta, that she accepted him as her knight, and fauoured him aboue all other that made loue to her.

In this time came to the Court Don Galitreo of *Castile*, who no soner saue the faire Princesse, but presently he was so esprized with her loue, as he was readie to die at her fote, and therefore diuers times made offer of his seruice to her: but she made no account thereof, declaring by

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her gesture and countenance, that my maister was the
angel in in her thoughts. Galileo from this time for-
ward, conceived mortall hatred against my maister, yet
dissembled his villanie with such coullers, as though he
had bene one of his dearest friends. So that my maister
being one day commaunded by his Lady Minoretta to goe
visit a distressed Lady, whome a cruell Gentleman too
much wronged: the traitour receiued opportunitie to set
his mischiefe abroche, for he being present when my mai-
ster tooke his charge, gaue no shew of contrarie meaning,
but no sooner had my Lord restored the wronged Lady,
albeit with danger of his person, by reason of certaine
wounds he receiued in fight, and returning to the Prin-
cess againe: but this day as we came into this Forrest,
where I vnarmed my Lord to rectifie his wounds, the
traitour Galileo, accompanied with foure more, disguised
and well armed, awaiting cowardly to take my Lord at
this aduantage, came to him with these wordes. Knowest
thou me Friener? if thou wilt save thy life, thou must haue
sollenely sweare to me, neuer to serue the Princess Mi-
noretta longer, or hereafter to come in any place where she
is. My maister knowing the traitour well enough by his
speeches, yet meruailling to make him in this place, because
at his departure he left him in *Portia*: notwithstanding
he was sore wounded and vnarmed, boldly thus answer-
red. Rather let me lose my life, quoth he, and endure a
thousand deathes if it were possible, then I will forgoe the
seruice of my mistresse: but while I can lift my sword,
will I maintaine her as the true Goddess of my heart.
By God, quoth Galileo, but I will make thee sure thou
shalt not: so drawing his Comdare, and my maister being
thus naked as you see, because I was attending his
wounds, he neuer left striking at him, till he saw him fall,
when both he and his companions galloped away so fast
as they could. *Erasmus*, answered the knight of fame,
thou hast told me the most monstrous tale that euer I
heard

heard of: but thou seeing thy maister so misused, why didst not thou helpe to defend him? Alas my Lord, quoth the Squire, there wanted no good will in me, but they that accompanied this traitour, held me with such violence as I could not stirre.

The Knight of Fame beholding the cruell woundes Don Frionell had receiued, and what a goodly personage hee had bene in his life time, sighing, sayd. Oh God, what two dangerous enemies are loue and iealousie: in the world there can not be any worse, whereby men may fall into so great hazard.

Well my friend, quoth hee to the Squire, here must we rest our selues for this night, because we knowe not whether else to goe, and to morrow shall we prouide for thy maisters bodie, whose death I purpose to reuenge, if I may finde the man that so bloodely murdered him. Assure your selfe my Lord, sayd the Squire, that hee is in Portugall with the Princeesse, because for her loue he slew my maister, who reputed him one of his dearest friends. There neuer were so great friends, quoth Don Robert, whome loue and iealousie could not mone to discord, and so for that night they lay downe and slept.

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CHAP. XXXIIII.

¶ How the Knight of Fame, hauing taken order for the buriall of *Don Frionell*, trauailed into *Portugall*, where he fought the combate with *Don Galitreo* of *Castile*, and what was the issue thereof.



Lere Phœbus arising from the souled armes of faire Thetis, the knight of fame awaked, and not able to sleepe any longer, by reason of his troubled thoughtes, leauing the Squires who as yet had not stirred, he walked downe to a River side, where he met an aged Hermit with an earthen Pitcher in his hand full of water, and hauing saluted the old ffather, demaunded of him, if any Towne or Village were nere at hand, or any religious Church or Chappell, where a Knight might be buried, Whome he had found slaine in that Forrest. In sooth my Lord, answered the Hermit, he is not the first that hath bene murdered in this place, for I haue enterred fiftene or sixtene in my little Chappell, which is kept with holie and religious deuotion: where if you please, the Knight you speake of may be buried, and I will helpe to carie him thither, for no other place is nere at hand by two good leagues and moze. God ffather then, said the Knight of fame, your gentle offer shall be accepted, the bodie is not farre hence, and little labour shall you take: for his Squire and mine shall lay him on a horse, and so conuay him to your Chappell without trouble. So went he with the Hermit to the dead bodie, and awaking the Squires, conuaid it to the Hermits Chappell in manner aforesaid: where the funerall ceremonies finished, the Knight of fame rewarded the old Hermit, and afterward mounted

mounted on horseback all three, riding straight to *Tolledo*, and passing the *And Doris*, entred the Realme of *Portugall*, where they understood that *Galtreo* was as then at the Court. Don Robert sendeth his Squire to the King, to request safe conduct for arrivall at the Pallace, which being obtained, in presence of his Haughtie he thus began.

Wither am I come worthy Prince, to let you knowe, that in your Court abideth the most traiterous and disloyal Knight, as euer was heard of, and who (not four daies since) hath done such a daede in *Spayne*, as no one bearing Armes would haue committed the like. By treason and villainie hath he murdered one of the most valiant Knights in *Europe* as I understand, for neuer did I knowe the man till he was dead: he being named Don Frionell of *Seuiche*, who left your Court by commaundement of Madame Minoretta, vpon an occasion best knowne to her selfe. Full well did I knowe the man, answered the King, but name him to me, who slew Frionell in such sort as thou sayest, to the end I may cause him come and defend his cause: and if he do it in manner as thou hast declared, or else can bring any profe thereof, neuer shall he enter the combate with thee, but iustice shall be inflicted on him as so foule an offence deserueth. As for me my Lord, answered the Knight of *Fantz*, I can make no other profe thereof, then by this Squire that serued Don Frionell, in whose armes I sawe the Knight breathe his last, and dying confessed, that the *Castilian* Prince slew him by treason: wherefore my Lord send for him, and if he denie it, heere am I ready to auouch it, and by my Sword will make him confesse it.

The King hearing him name the Prince of *Castile*, was greatly astonied heereat, for he knew not that he was absent from his Court so lately, and the Quene with her Ladies being present, were no lesse abashed: but aboue all, the Princesse Minoretta, who hearing the death of her valiant Knight, whome she in loue had made chiefe account

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of, immediatly such sorrow stroke to her heart, as her speech failing her, and a cold chilling blood passing the conduits of her vaines, she leaned on the lap of her Gouernesse, where falling in a dead traunce, all the Ladies had much ado to get life in her againe. But she being recouered, and each one placed as they were before, Galitreo was sent for, to whome the King thus spake.

Belæue me Galitreo, I allwayes conceiued well of you till now, perswading my selfe of your truth and discretion, that nothing in the world could moue ye so much as to thinke a bad thought, much lesse to commit any acte of treason. But what I say, this Knight auoucheth, that in *Spayne* you haue done a daede of high dishonour, where you being armed and well accompanied, outragiously set vpon the noble Lord Don Frionell, he being naked and without defence, then and there you cruelly murdered him, yea, for a cause of no weight as I vnderstand: what answers make ye to this accusation? If Galitreo were then doubtfully surprized, I referre to the iudgement of like bad minded men: but hauing beheld the steame countenance of the Knight of Fame, with counterfeited reuerence thus replied.

O Lord, not onely now, but at all times, calumniators, and false accusers are easily found, the greater part of the auncient Romaine Histories are storied with examples thereof: but in the end, such bassard broode of detractours, haue felt the desert of their lanish tongues, and innocencie hath baunted with triumph. This speake I in respect of this paillard, who (vnder your Maiesties correction) hath falsly lied, and as a leaser is to be estranged. For the wortheie Lord Don Frionell, was one of the dearest friends I had in the world: beside, I dare gadge my life, that this false wretch knowes me not, or euer saw me before this instant. I belæue well, quoth the Squire to Don Frionell, that this Knight had no knowledge of you till now: but I am assured that he hath spoken truth, and so

so my maister himselſe confeſſed at his lateſt gaspe, that becauſe Padame Minoretta ſauoured him, and deſpised you, therfore you wrought his death in that cruell manner. The knight of ſhame perceiuing, that Galitreo had no great mind to the combate, interrupted the ſquire, and thus ſpake to the king. I ſee well my Lord, that Don Galitreo deſpairing of his cauſe, deſires to triſle the time with many circumſtances, in that he thinketh me unable to auerre mine accuſation, becauſe I want further teſtimonie, how he and his complices masked and diſguiſed, did the ſhamefull deed of death and murder: may it therfore like your Maieſtie to graunt vs the combate, and in fight will I make manifeſt his treaſon. Preſumptuous as thou art, quoth Galitreo, doſt thou thinke I feare to make thee in plaine combate: no, ſo pleaſe my Lord the King. I accept thy challenge, and hauing giuen thee the due belonging to a falſe barlet, will follow the queſt of my deere friend Don Frioneil. Him maiſt thou finde dead, quoth the knight of ſhame, ſome enough to thy ſhame, not farre from the place where thou didſt murder him, in a little Hermitage in the ſame foreſt, where I cauſed him to be interred, as his ſquire and mine owne are able to teſtifie. Whereupon, the king called two auncient knightes, who hauing heard the difference betwene the knight of ſhame and Galitreo, he demaunded their aduiſe in this doubtfull matter. They thought it expedient, that the combate ſhould be graunted them, to end the controuerſie of further proue: becauſe Frioneil might be ſlaine by the accuſer and his ſquire, as by Galitreo that ſtood accuſed. Wherefore the king graunted them the combate at the Launce and Sword, as is common among all knightes, appointing the Parqueſſe of Villereat, and the Countie of Marſhe, Judges of the ſeld. All this while, the Princeſſe Minoretta continued her penſiue mones, praying for the prosperous ſucceſſe of the newcome knight, and the conſuſion of the traitour Galitreo. In the morrow, was this

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doubtfull combat tried, being fought on either side with such exceeding valour, as they both fell downe soote to soote, that each one reputed them both for dead: but when the knight of flames helmet was opened, and he had receiued the fresh aire, he came to himselfe againe, albeit Gahereo was slaine outright, and therefore condemned as soyled in fight.

The King glad of this happie victorie, intrated the knight of flame as he had borne his owne sonne, causing his Chirurgions to take care of his wounds, and during the time of his abode there for his health, the continuall good countenance shewed by the Princesse Minoretta made him liue in hope to obtaine: but he was preuented by the King of Nauarre, who sending his Ambassadors to demand the Princesse in marriage, had his request graunted by the King.

The knight of flame seeing himselfe so infortunate in obtaining a wife, so soone as his wounds were thoroughly cured, tooke his leaue of the King and departed, with intent after he had seene his owne countrey, to trauaile into *England* againe, to be reuenged on Palladine, for the soyle he sulkeyned at the Ioustes at *Paris*. so mounting on horse back, he tooke his way directly toward *Friezeland*. And not able to continue there any long time, because his conceiued hate was such toward the *English* Prince, he trauailed thorough *Scotland*, who meeting suddenly with *Simpriuell*, and not knowing him, a quarrell arose betwene them, the knight of flame discommending Palladine, and vowing reuenge on all those that durst take his part, which *Simpriuell* vndertaking, they fell from words to strokes, and such was the good fortune of Don Robert, as hauing the better of *Simpriuell*, he departed, leauing him there very sore wounded.

Manteled the Prince of *Millyne*, whome long since we left in his iourney toward *Normandie*, desirous to see his swete mistresse Marcelina, by good hap found *Simpriuell*
nell

nell thus dangerously wounded, and hauing vnderstood the whole summe of his misadventure, promised to follow the Knight who had thus wronged him, and to reuenge his cause though it cost him his life.

Now must I giue you to vnderstand, that Mantelco and the Knight of Fame were very nere allyed, the father to Temoreo the Duke of *Millyne*, being brother to Don Roberts mother: yet this kindred being forgotten betwene them, or at least their angrie displeasure preuailing aboue the remembrance thereof, caused them (meeting together) to put each others life in very great danger. And being afterward brought by their Squires to a Gentlemans Castell nere at hand, where Simprinell likewise lay for the recouerie of his woundes, they had knowledge of each other, when sorrowing their meeting was in such unhappie sort, with frendly gratings, they excused all that had passed, riding with Simprinell to the King his fathers Court, where they were entertained as becomed their honorable calling.

CHAP. XXXV.

¶ How the great Turke sent his Ambassadors to the King of *Aquica*, to request his Daughter *Nonparelia* in marriage: and what sorrow it was to her, and the Knight without rest, when they heard the King giue his consent.



ALL this while remained Palladine with his faire Nonparelia, in the greatest pleasure and delight that could be imagined, till fortune, enuious of their successe, sought to crosse them with her wanted forwardnesse: which Orbiconte by her knowledge well perceiuing, and that now if she layd not to her helpe

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ping hand, all the promised good hap would be squandered so: cuer, to terrefie the two louers alittle, she came and brake it to them in this manner.

It is a common saying, my good friends, that dangers sozetold, hurt the lesse when they come to passe, hercby aun I to aduertise ye, that such a matter will shortly happen, as can not but be to your great disliking: yet be of good chaire, and endure it with resolued patience, so: I will preuent the effectuall working thereof. But to hold ye in no longer suspence, knowe, that this night past I made a figure, to vnderstand thereby, if your mariage were to be hindered by any contrarie accident: and I finde, that a mightie Lord, euen he that commaundeth ouer all these countreys, will shortly send to request my Piere in marriage, whereto the King her Father will gladly giue consent.

At these words the Princesse fell in a swoone, and the Knight without rest was interuailous impatient: but Orbiconte hauing recouered her, in this sort began to perswade her. Why: faire Piere, doe you dispaire o: doubt, that I can not hinder the mariage betwene you and the great Turke: knowe you not, that I haue done things of greater valew then that: I neuer thought you had such diffidence in me. Who brought Sir Palladine into this countrey but I: and who gaue you the hono: of his loue, but I: and if I haue bene able to doe all this, thinke ye I can not wade through matter of lesse moment: Quiet your selfe, and feare not, but I will compassse your mariage to your owne content, without displeasing my Lord the great Turke, o: the King your Father, notwithstanding his promise.

Alas my good Aunt, said the Princesse, it is not so: my Fathers ease, to purchase himselfe so great an enemy as is the great Turke, who in thre dayes is able to ruinate our whole countrey: and hauing so bad a neighbour as is the King of *PAGONIA*, who doubtlesse would gladly with
the

or Iuliane of England. 76

the great Lord, in reuenge of the late foyle he sustayned, I
for no way to preuent fatall danger.

Why Madame? quoth the Knight without rest, victo-
rie consisteth not in strength or multitude, but in the pol-
licie of the Captaines, and discretion of the Souldiours to
pursue an enterpryse, as many examples are left among
Romains, Carthaginians, Athenians, and infinite other,
where a small power hath preuailed against the greater,
onely by the wise foresight of their leaders, and withall,
hauing truth and iustice on their side. Let vs, said the
Princesse, not stand upon pollicie, or the truth of our cause,
we can not be more subtill or hardie then they are: and as
for our right in the matter, what reason shall my father
haue to demie so great a Lord? great I may boldly say,
because in all the world he hath not his second, both in ri-
ches, puissance, or any thing whatsoever. Alas good Piere,
said Orbiconte merily, stand not on these doubtfull
tearines, for the case shall neuer be aduentured so farre:
cast all your care on me, as yet (I thinke) I neuer sayled
ye. So parted they to their chambers, where the Prin-
cesse remained in a hell of greafe, such was her intire af-
fection to the Prince of England. And he likewise could re-
solue on nothing, for now he thought to request the Prin-
cesse in marriage, before the comming of the Ambassadors,
perswading himselfe that the King would not deny him:
then againe he dispaired of the matter, reputing himselfe
vnlikely to enioy her, by reason of their contrarietie in
faith and religion, the King being an earnest maintainer
of the Pagan lawe. Nor would this imagination serue,
wherefore he intended to steale her thence secretly, and to
carie her with him into *England*, while Orbiconte labou-
red at home to appease the trouble that might follow. In
the end, he reposed himselfe on the faithfull promise of Or-
biconte, and desired his Lady to do the like, because he
had found her so iust in all his former fortunes. But now
are the Ambassadors come to the Court, where being
entertained

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entertained with great pompe and royaltie, he that was appointed chiefe in the embassade, thus deliuered his message to the King.

King of *Aquila*, the high and mightie Lord my maister being aduertised of the rare vertues wherewith thy Daughter is endued, hath sent me to intreate thee, that thou wouldest bestowe her on him in marriage: and in so doing, he vowes himselfe thy friend, and a continuall enemy to thy ill willers.

Wherewith he deliuered the Letters of credit, signed with the hand and scale of the great Turke: whereat the King no lesse ioyfull then amazed, that his Daughter should arise to so high fortune, without crauing any aduise in the cause, thus answered. I thanke my gracious Lord with all my heart, that he will so honor me with request of my Daughter in marriage: and her do I freely give him, with all that is mine at his disposing.

Then did the Ambassadour present the King, sixe godly Coursers of *Turkie*, sent him from his Lord and maister, and to the Princesse he gaue a sumptuous Carbanet, garnished with Carbuncles, Orientall Pearles, and Stones of inestimable valew, which she receiued with good countenance, albeit God knowes with a heauie heart, in which grace, the Knight without rest bare her company, yet durst not outward shew thereof. This costly Jewell the Quene immediatly fastened about her Daughters neck, being commended for the rarest that euer was seene: afterward the King walked with the Ambassadors, doing them all the honor he could any way deuise.

While all the Court were busied, Orbiconte came with Nonparelia to Palladines chamber, and there concluded, that he should on the morrow take his leaue of the King, framing his iourney directly toward *England*, where the Princesse and she would in short time meeete him: willing them to make no shew of sorrow at their departure, least suspition might preuent wh at she had intended, but to resolve

solue them assuredly, that all her promises should sorte to effect. The Knight without rest did as he was aduised, and albeit it was long ere the King would giue consent, because he loued him very dærely: yet at length (with much ado) he preuailed, the Prince Zorian obtaining leaue of his father to accompanie him in trauaile, because his Daieshe thought he could neuer haue a bauer companion. Many rich giftes the King bestowed on the Knight without rest, especially one of the Coursers sent him from the great Turke, and other thinges needfull to be vsed in trauaile, and thus he prepared him selfe toward his iourney, reposing his confidence in the wise Orbiconte, that he would bring his Lady safely into *England*,

CHAP. XXXVI

¶ How the knight without rest and the Prince Zorian, departed from *Aquilea* toward *England*, and how the Knight without rest by the waye, discovered him selfe to the Prince Zorian: who when he came into *England*, was baptized, and betrothed to the faire *Graciana*, daughter to the Earle of *Flanders*, and the like was *Mamelio* and *Lindystunes* to their Ladies.



Every thing being in redines for our Knightes trauaile, after all the ceremonious conges at the parting of frendes, the knight without rest, Zorian, Broantine, Lyboran and Lycelio, all brauely mounted in formely equipage: they leaue the Courte of *Aquilea*, and toward *England* iourney with all conuenient speede, the Knight without rest being especially induced to this haste, because he expected the promise of Orbiconte, some after would folloine him with the faire *Nonparelia*.

Many worthy adventures they had by the way, as defending chaste Damofelles from forced violence, and helping distressed Ladies to their suborned right: which growing to more tediousnes the delightfull matter, I haue thought good to abridge, as lothe to speake of any thing but what is worth the hearing.

When our Knightes were entered the Realme of *Al-maigne*, and the *Englishe* Prince had made good triall of Zorians loue to him: one night as they laye in Bed together, he entred into these speeches. My Lord Zorian, the friendship solemnely swoyne betwene vs, and the proof of your ready good will in all my actions: will not let me hide one thing from you, which till this present I haue kept with great secrecie, both from the knowledge of the King your Father and you, onely by the perswasion of the Lady Orbiconte your Aunt, to whome I am more beholding then any other living creature. For in my iourney toward *Aquilea*, oftentimes did she preserue me from the danger of death, and by her meanes I left the Court of the King of *England* my Father, by her promise that I should enioy your faire Sister in marriage, in recompence of some service I should doe to the King your Father: and this by her secret knowledge she likewise tolde me, that all your Fathers dominions shall be shortly conuerted to the Christian faith, which I professe, and will doe till death. Then he recounted, how Orbiconte sent him the Sheld he bare, and shewed the Sword wheron the name of *Aquilea* was engrauen, being brought to him by the enchaunted knight and two Damofells. He likewise declared how he changed his name because he would not be knowne, and that Liboran only counterfeited dumbnes, being not able to learne the *Aquilian* language: all the rest of his traualles at full he opened, his right name and whether he now iournied.

In sooth my Lord Palladine, answered Zorian, such resolute opinion of your vertues haue I imprinted in my hart

hart, as though you be contrary to me in loue and profession, yet shall not my good will slack, or I forgoe your company: but I would the time were come, wherein my Fathers kingdome shall embrace Chriftianitie, which I already begin to like so well, believing that your God is of greater power then ours, as all our successfull deedes of armes beare witnes: that I ere long will become a Christian. Yet one thing chafte doth displease me, that my Sister is promised in mariage to my Lord the great Turk, which will be the occasion that my Aunte Orbiconte cannot keep her word with you.

My Lord and companion saide Palladine, that I haue your good liking in this cause; in sooth it doth not a little content me: but as for your Sister, there is nothing yet done but may easily be altered. Madame Orbiconte hath promised to content the great Turke and your Father, and in fewe dayes will safely arrive with your Sister in England. I would we might finde them there quoth Zorian at our coming, you may be assured I would not hinder your mariage, but assist it to the uttermost of my power: for more account doe I make of your loue and friendship, then all the wealthy possessions of my Lord & great Turk. And one thing will I intreat ye faithfully to promise me, that the next day after our arrivall at your Fathers Court you will take such order as I maye be baptised in the faith of a Christian, for I feele my conscience that way earnestly addiaced.

Palladine not a little ioyfull of this request, promised to perforce what he had desired: so sleep causing them to breake off talke, the next morning they were earlye on horse backe, and passing the *Rheme*, they entred *Lorraine*. Afterward trauesing the *Ardeines*, *Luxembourg* and *Liege*, they came into *Brabant*, and from thence (after many aduentures ended) they crossed through *Flanders*, taking shipping at *Calis*, and in shorte time landed at *Doner* in England, where they stayed two or three daies to refresh

themselves.

them

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them selues. Then comming to *London* to the Court, God knowes what ioy was there made fo: their arriuall, the King to see his Sonne returned. Manteleo and Landastines their long absent friend, and the Citizens their yong Prince whome they feared was lost: let all their ioye be compared together, and thinke of what efficacie so great a matter is, because pen and paper cannot disclose it. Palladine not vnmindfull of his passed promise, acquainted the King his Father with the state of Zorian, how graciously he was entertained in the Court of *Aquilei*, and how the Princes Sister was comming after with her Aunt, a Ladye of incomparable vertues and graces, and her noble brother renouncing his paganisme, desired to be receiued into the fellowship of Christians, not being able to enioy peace in conscience, till he were deliuered of his vnbeleefe.

The King exceeding glad of these good newes, caused such royall preparation to be made against the next daye, as at a matter of such solennitie is required: there was Zorian and his Squire christened, the King, the Quene, and the Earle of *Flunders* witnesses to the Prince, and Palladine, Manteleo and Marcelina to the Squire Ligasto. Returning from the Church to the Pallace, there was ordained a sumptuous feast, and Zorian well regarding the Ladies of *England*, among them all liked Graciana, daughter to the Earle of *Flunders*: being then sodenly so enchanted with her, as he secretly vowed neuer to loue any other while he liued. Palladine perceiuing his amorous glaunces on Graciana, and noting the many alterations of his countenance: immediatly knew what disease he was troubled withall, which he desirous to mitigate, and to please the Prince Zorian to his vttermoste, the tables being withdrawen, he tooke Graciana by the hand, and bringing her to Zorian thus spake.

My Lord and noble companion, fo: my sake loue this beautifull Lady, she is named Graciana: and I hope you shall

shall finde her nature answerable to her name, to wit, gracious, vertuous and honest.

I promise ye my Lord, quoth Zorian, you haue done me the greatest pleasure in the World, bringing to me a Lady so worthily accomplished, that I might learne to imitate her vertues: which haue pearced my hart in such sorte, as would she accept me to be her Knight and seruant neuer should any other Lady haue the hono^r of my loue, I perceiue well then said Palladine, that you are touched to the quick, do you twaine deuise together, and in meane while, I will goe talke with the Countie her father. So taking the Earle of *Flumders* aside, he rehearsed to him the manifold vertues of the Prince Zorian, and how intirely he loned his Daughter, thinking it a great preferment to her, if she iorned with him in mariage. Like speeches bid he vse to the Quene his Mother, who was Cousin germaine to the Earle of *Flumders*, and betwæne them bothe handled the matter so effectuallye: as within two dayes Zorian and Graciana were affianced together, their mariage being deferred, because of Ambassadors were gone to *Norgalles* and *Millaine*, to conclude the mariages betwæne Landastines, Manteleo, Marcelina and Florea, and the Princes fathers consent obtained. all these mariages should be sollemnelye perfourmed together: But twenty dayes being now past, and Palladine hearing no tidings of Nonparelia, he began to ware melanchollye, halfe distrusting the promise of Orbiconte: yet did not this pensiuenes continue long, so; she arriued sone after as you shall presently perceiue.

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CHAP. XXXVII.

¶ How the Princeſſe *Nonparella* was deliuered to the great Turkes Ambaſſadours, and how by the forceries of the wiſe *Orbicone*, the Ships were ſcattered, and what perſwaſions ſhe vied to the Mariſters, who were very lothe to ſaile into *England*.



Within three dayes after the departure of *Palladine* and *Zorian* from *Aquile*, *Nonparella* was honourably deliuered to the great Turkes Ambaſſadours, and with meruailous royaltie conuaid on Ship boorde, accompanied with her Aunt *Orbicone*, and a ſcencelye traine of Ladies beſide. The Ankers weyed and the ſayles hoyle, they launche into the deepe, the Princeſſe ſtill fearefull to loſe the true owner of her loue yet comforted by her Aunt, that in ſew dayes they would ſee *England*.

Being entred the *Mediterranean* Sea. *Orbicone* ſaw it was tyme to ſet her practice aſwoche, and ſeing the Pilots and Hariners were all at reſt, with a Booke in her hand ſhe came vp on the deck: where breſthing her charmes into the aire, and filling the ſayles with her unhallowed ſpelles, the windes began to blowe terribly, and the Seas were troubled with wonderfull roughnes, that the Mariners awaked with the horroz of the ſtorme, awaiting euer howe their vtter deſtruction. In this tempeſt the Ships were ſeperated ſo farre a ſunder, as the Turkes diſpaired of euer meeting againe, ſo that the veſſell wherein the Princeſſe and *Orbicone* were, by daye was on the borders of *Scythia*, and very nere to the *Iubean* promontarie, albeit the Pilot could not tell in what Cuntrie they were. Then
Orbicone

Orbiconte calling the Gouernours of the Ship to her, and the Gentlemen appointed to attende on the Princesse in the presence of her Piece thus spake to them.

You haue seene my good frendes in what extreame danger we haue bene this night past, and I thinke there is no one amonge yee, but is perswaded that our Gods haue especially preserved vs, yea, by wonderfull miracle from shipwacke, wherewith euery minute of an hower we were threathned. In like sorte you may imagine that not without some secret and hidden cause we are caste into these partes, and scattered from the Ships of my Lordes Ambassadors: herby do our Gods euidentlye manifest, that men, how strong or puissant so euer they be, cannot bring to end any intended enterpryse, vnlesse it be ordered by their sauour and direction, and hereynce ariseth the the common prouerb: That men purpose, and the Gods dispose. It is well knowne to you, that the King my brother hath graunted in marriage my Piece Nonparelia to our Lord the great Turke: but our Gods (from whose sight nothing can be shadowed) knowing what before was accorded, and concluded between her and the Knight without rest, whome you haue seene in my brothers Courte, he being the Sonne of a mighty and puissant king: haue apparantly reuealed, that their faithfull promise to eache other must not be falsified, promise (I say) of marriage betwene them, wherof my selfe am a swozne witnesse. In vaine is it then for you thus to alleadge, that the Knight without rest is a Christian, and my Piece a Pagan: but let it suffice ye, that our Gods will haue it so. as you in short time shall see further experience.

Do you therfore direct your compasse to the coaste of Spaine, that from thence we maye saile into England, the seate and Kingdome of the Knight without rest, after the deceasse of his father who is yet liuing. feare not any incommenience that may ensue hereby, for I will be your safe protection, and no worse shall fall to you hereby then to my

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to my Niece and my Wife, and of her haue I greater care then were she my owne Daughter.

Wherewith she paused, expecting what answer they would returne: but discerning by their countenances, that they liked not her speeches, as also they were loth to come among the Christians their enemies, without a better warrantise of their safetie, she began againe in this manner.

Why my frendes? are you so fearefull as you shewe your selues? do you thinke any harme shall happen to you in my companie? am not I and my Niece sufficient for your assurance? what other safe conduct would ye haue? we goe into the land of our kindred and friends, to confirme a perpetuall peace and concord, with one of the moste vertuous Princes in the world. My Nephewe the Prince Zorian, who departed (you knowe) with that gentle Knight: there is he louingly entertained & fauoured, by him whom the Gods preordained to be my Nieces husband. Saile we on then merilye, and feare not the displeasure of the King my brother: for well am I assured, that they will not dislike this marriage. And were I not fullye perswaded, of what I haue saide, that the ende of our enterprise shall sorte to a generall benefit, yea to a full resolved ioye and content on all sides: I would not haue aduentured thus farre, being as carefull of your good as mine owne life.

These speeches so thoroughly animated the Mariners and Gentlemen, as they promised to fulfill what she gaue them in charge, being certaine that Orisconte tolde them nothing, but what she had forescen by her wonderfull knowledge: and therefore passing by Hercules pillars, they entered the Ocean, directing their compassse toward great Britaine. By y way, they were set vpon by three pirates, who seeking to take the spoyle of the Ship, slew many Gentlemen and Mariners, and when they were brought to the very hardest crigent, that they thought verily to be taken by the Pirates: three English Shippes came to their rescue, whereun

wherein the high Admirall of *England* was, who had bene in *Portugall* with the King, to aduertise him of the mariage of his two Sicces, to the Princes Mantelio and Landaltines. The Ships of *England* encountred the Pirates, and after long fight toke them: then comming to knowe of whence the Ship was that had bene so distressed, the man that was sent to demaund the question, was Captaine Broantine, who accompanied the Admirall in this voiage. Joyfull was Orbiconte when she beheld Broantine, and comming on board the Admirall, to whome Broantine revealed of whence they were, and that Palladine long expected their arrivall in *England*: it is not to be asked how courteously he entertained them, bowing to take sharpe reuenge on the Pirates for their villainous dealing. Broantine declared to Nonparelia, the health of Palladine and her brother Zorian, how he was Chyistened, and affianced to the faire Graciana of *Flaunders*: which newes pleased her not a little, as also this happie and fortunat deliuerance, which she verily thought hardly to escape with life. The Admirall made them the best chere he could on Ship board, and afterward committed them to the charge of Broantine, to see them safely conducted into *England*: himselfe taking order for the Pirates Ships, which after he had ransacked as he pleased, he followed withall, as wind and weather gaue him leaue.

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CHAP. XXXVIII.

¶ How the Princesse *Nonparelia*, and *Orbiconte* arrived in *England*, where they were royally entertayned by the King and his Princesse: And how *Palladine* bewrayed what had passed betweene him and his Lady, where-with the King and Queene were well contented.

Having sayled with a good and prosperous winde, at length the Ships came on the cape of *Cornewall*, and from thence to the *Ile Benedict*, where coasting as occasion served, leaving the cape of *Pinda*, they took harborow in the *Ile of Wights*: from whence *Broantine* sent a *Burgandine* before, to aduertise *Palladine* how nere his Lady was, the wife *Orbiconte* writing to him in this manner.

*The Letter from the wife Orbiconte, to Palladine
Prince of England.*

These are to aduertise ye, Lord *Palladine*, that by the assistance of the highest God, my Piere *Nonparelia* and I are safely arrived in the *Ile of Saint Helena*, from whence, we will shortly set forward, according to the promise I made at your departure from *Aquila*, having done my uttermost in your cause for my Piere, who (as you knowe) hath refused the great Emperour of *Turkey*, making choyse of you above all other, in respect of your faithfull bowe to her, made in my chamber at her fathers *Wallace*, which I hope you will not now forget, considering what hath bene done at your earnest instance. Therefore (if as yet you haue not done it) make the King your
Father,

of Palladine of England. 82

Father, and the Quene, acquainted therewith, and that so soone as possible you can : because I would see your marriage perfected before my returne to *Aquilea*, that I may credibly assure the King my Brother, what high good fortune is befallen his Daughter, as also the continuall honor promised you by the desires, and not to you alone, but to your illuc hereafter likewise. Thus awaiting opportunity, to acquaint you at large with our navigation, and what dangers we haue escaped on the Sea, as your Admirall and Broancine can testifie, who deliuered us from bloodthirstie Pirates : I cease, presenting hartie good will to you from my Pisce and my selfe.

From the Isle of Saint Helena.

By your affectionate friend.

Orbicone.

Such were the contents of the Letter, sent from the wise Orbicone to the Prince Palladine, which was presented him by one of Broancines Gentlemen, as he was walking in the Garden with the King and Quene, conferring on the preparation for the triumphs, at the marriage of Marcelina and Florea. So soone had he read the name of Orbicone, and from whence the Letter was directed, but he began to change his countenance meruailously, which the King perceiving, said. What newes hath Broancine sent ye, that makes your colour alter in such sort : the Letter doubtlesse is the cause thereof. In truth, said the Quene, I see the Letter imports great matter, let vs understand what is contained therein. Palladine not daring to deny this commaundement, causing the Gentleman that brought the Letter to withdraw himselfe, thus answered. My gracious Lord and Father, this Lett. deliueres none but good newes : the Sister to the King of *Aquilea*, and faire Nonpareil his Daughter, are come to visit your Maiestie. Right welcome are they, said the King, and I will doe them all the honor I may : but what may be the

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cause of this kindnesse, seeing our Realme is so farre from
Aquila. Then Palladine declared the whole discourse of
his voiage, how by the aduise of the wise Orbiconte, he had
promised the Princesse Nonparelia (after she had receiued
her Christendome) to take her in mariage, in that she was
accomplished with as rare perfections of beawtie and ver-
tue, as any Princesse in the world beside. You place that
foymost, quoth the King, which you loue best, preferring
corpo:all beawtie befoze vertue: but here in you are to be
pardoned, for loue and affection so alter the senses, as
makes men put one word in anothers place. I spake of that
first my Lord, quoth Palladine, which I first saue in so
faire a creature, namely a choise grace of corpo:all beaw-
tie: and hauing afterward by frequenting her companie,
gathered sufficient knowledge of her inward endow-
ments, I placed them as they came to my acquaintance.
And such is my hope, good Father, that your selfe wil iudge
no lesse then I do, when you haue sene her. For the rest,
Madame Orbiconte her Aunt shall resolue ye, giuing you
to vnderstand matters of weight, and such as you will
thinke your selfe happie to knowe: this being the meane
to bring to the Christian faith, the great and mightie
Kingdome of *Aquila*. Thou tellest me wonders my
Sonne, quoth the King, but why didst thou not sooner ac-
quaint me herewith? Because I feared, answered Palla-
dine, that misfortune on the Sea might alter my intent,
or the promise of Orbiconte, might be preuented by some
other sinister meane. Tell my Sonne, quoth the King, I
pray that thy desires may haue a fortunate end, and such
things as thou speakest of may come to passe. I meane
while, let vs prouide to receiue these two Princes, and
make them such entertainment as their calling deserues.
Forthwith he commaunded, that the Pallace should be
adorned with most sumptuous Tapistrie, and calling for
the Viceadmirall, willed him to prepare certaine Ships,
that might go meete the Ladies as they came, wherein
Palladine,

Palladine, Zorian, Mantecio, Landastines, and many other great Lords were imbarqued. And being come to the Ile of Tennes, they espied the Ships sayling amaine toward them, and entring among them, Palladine seeing Orbiconte aloft on the deck, knew well where the Princess Nonparelia was: wherefore going aboard that Ship, catching Orbiconte in his armes, he thus spake. Welcome good Lady into this Countrey, this day doe you giue me life, and the onely comfort I desire in this world: for had not your assurance at my departure from *Aquila* perswaded me, I had ere this bene comforted with the dead. As he was thus embracing Orbiconte, the Princess Nonparelia came forth of her Cabin, and with a swate smiling countenance came to him, saying. Haue you not done yet my Lord: I am not content that you giue all the welcome to mine Aunt, and allow me no portion thereof, I thinke I haue deserued some part. At these words, he suddenly leauing Orbiconte, embraced his mistresse with such zealous affection, as neither of them were able to speake one word: in which time Zorian and the other Princes, had leisure to welcome the wise Orbiconte. During this time of greeting and salutation, they sayled on with so good a winde, as in short time they entred the Port of *London*, where this honorable companie were receiued with great magnificence, the Citizens conducting them thorough the strates with such pompe and sumptuous deuises, as neuer was the like scene in *London* before. The King and Quene for the greater hono: of their Sonne, came to the Court gate to welcome the Princess, at whose rare beawtie as they did not a little wonder, so there wanted no kinde of courtesie, whereby their good will might at large be expressed. So walking on into the great Hall, there began againe new shewes of entertainment, whereby both Orbiconte and her Niece perceiued, that the Court of *England* was incomparable for gracious behauiour. While the King and Quene were conferring with Orbiconte, Palla-

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dine toke his Lady aside to the windowe, where she at large declared to him, the dangers sustained in their voyage, and their good deliuerance by the Admirall of England and Broantine. Herof sweete Lady, quoth Palladine, your Aunt already hath aduertised me, and I know assuredly, that you haue escaped greater perill then you can report to me, all for my loue, wherein I am religiously bound to you while I liue: yet herewithall consider, that you haue endured all this for your faithfull friend and husband, who now bids you welcome as his loyall and espoused wife. Alas, my Lord, quoth the Princesse, you well knowe that I haue no other intent, and the sooner our nuptials are solemnized, the better shall I be quieted, least any dishonour should ouertake me, in respect of what hath passed betwene vs heretofore. Deidame, answered Palladine, this care concerneth me as nere as your selfe, and to prevent such danger, we must herein be aduertised by your Aunt Orbicome, the rest shall be accomplished with all possible speed. In all this time, Orbicome had so preuailed with the King and Queene, declaring that this marriage was forepointed in their infancie, and should by her meanes be ratified by the King of Aquile her Brother, as they both promised, that so soon as the King of Portugal was arrived, who was sent for to the marriage of his two Nieces, the wedding should be solemnized at that instant likewise. Untill which time, the Princesse should be instructed in the Christian faith, and be made partaker of that holy Sacrament, which is the badge and cognisance of all Christians, so should her obscure thoughts be clerely illuminated, and the marriage would be more acceptable in the sight of God. The Kings deuise was generally well liked, and the Princesse her selfe willing to vnderstand the rules, which were so farre different from her Pagan profession: in which exercise she had her whole studie and delight, till the time came that she should be Baptized.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXXIX.

¶ How the Princesse *Nonparelia* and all her Ladyes, were with great pompe and solemnitie Baptised, and all the honorable mariages afterward finished.



By painefull diligence of diuers learned Diuines, the Princesse was wonne to receiue the faith of a Christian, and all her Ladies likewise that came with her from *Aquileia*: so they being all attired in white garments, were conducd to the Cathedrall Church in *London*, with such royall pompe and magnificence, as euery eye was set to wonder. Such was her stately maiestie in going, and her swete looks so effectually piercing, as the most deuoutest minde was halfe rauished, yea double charged with the baptisme of these twelue *Aquileans*. Mantelco, Landastines and the Quene were her sureties at the Font, and diuers honorable persons for the Ladies, who changed none of their names at Palladines request. They were no soner returned to the Pallace, but newes was brought, that Don Roderigo the King of *Portugall*, was come to *London*: which tidings pleased the King so well, especially all the louers, whose mariages stayed onely for his conuning, as I thinke the riches of the whole world could not more content them. Roderigo thus arriued, is saluted by the people, embac'd by the King his Brother, welcommed by Palladine and the other Princes, kissed so courteously by Nonparelia his two Sisters, and Graciana, Daughter to the Earle of *Flunders*, as he imagined himselfe in the like place, as heretofore was feigned on the Isle of *Auclon*, and the Kingdome of *Ferri*. On the morrow was the solemnitie of

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of the espoualles, and because the Kings, Princes, and great Lords there arrived, Strone who should giue place to each other: it was in the end concluded, that each Bridegrome should leade his Bride himselte, therefore they went to the Church in this manner. Nonparelia was lead by the Prince of *England*, Marcelina by Manteleo, Florea by Landastines, Graciana by Zorian, Doronea, Daughter to the Duke of *Rostock*, by Broantine, Erinnea, Duchesse of *Rimondria*, by Liboran. Were do I omit the description of their sumptuous ornaments, chaines, and ieweltes, because you are able to conceiue, that such persons at such a time, want nothing that may set forth themselves to the vttermost. The feastes at Dinner and Supper ended, the Maskes, Pommeries, and other pastimes giuen ouer: Hymen entred among them, whose Comedie was so bræfe, as he vsed but one acte and two persons in the scene, and that without any auditours present, but those whome the play and partes concerned. But cleere Dyan arising, gaue fauour to some, and offence to other, so so: that time the pastime ceased, because the Lords and Ladies came to giue them the good morrowe, especially to Nonparelia, who in time they hoped to see Quene of *England*. She hauing with modest and amiable gestures thanked them, demaunded of Marcelina and Florea her Sisters, how they fared, and how her Brother Zorian did with his faire Princessse of *Flawnders*: they all replying, that loue that night rewarded their long trauailes, and Venus courtcously fauoured her Sonnes proceedings. But leaue we this to such as haue made experience thereof, and now let vs come to a matter long time kept in silence.

CHAP.

CHAP. XL

¶ What end the aduventure of the Starnes had, namely, that of the Goddesse *Cytherea* and her Sonne *Cupid*: and the braue Tournament after the prooffe thereof, in honor of the marriage of *Palladine* and *Nonparelia*.



In honor of this great sollemnitie, the Princes had concluded on a Tournament at Armes: which to behold, the Ladies of the Court put themselves in comely equipage, when Palladine before them used these speeches. Faire Ladies, you knowe how long I haue bene desirous of this day, to make prooffe both

the aduventure of Loues Images might be brought to end, namely, by one of the race of the King my father. And albeit I am not that happie knight to whome it is destined, and whome the heauens will regard with such fauour, as in beaultie and firme affection to God beyond all other: yet will not I faile to hazard my triall, being thus farre assured, that in matters appertaining to a noble minde, no one hath beheld me inferiour to any. And if my vertues are not come to perfection, it will be some grieue to me: because the abilitie of a man shall be prized according to his successe in this triall. But to the end these Images newly called to remembrance, may breede no obscure and difficult vnderstanding, you must heere note, that in the great waste place before the Court at *London*, at the top of a great paye of staires stood these Statues: the one representing *Venus*, holding in her hand a lighted Torch, not to be ertinguished but by the conquerour of double passions: and the other was her Sonne *Cupid*, with an arrowe drawn in his bow, as ready to shoot,

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which likewise could not be discharged, but by her that was as much overcome, as victorious in amorous affections.

Now although these Statues were made of Marble, yet were they so excellently carued, and approaching so neere to the life: as Venus (being attired in habit after the *English* manner) was able to entise the thoughts of a verie strayed person.

Yet reflecte one matter to declare, namely, that the man not deserving the name of a louer, might not present himselfe before these Images: for the sight of such men was so offensive to them, as they would disdain to looke upon them, and exalt themselves by into the aire, because such unworthy people should not touch them.

Returne we now to Prince Palladine againe, he who by generall opinion had not his second in *England*, and by his new entrance into the fellowship of the married, carried this estimation in his owne conceit: that he should beare away this long desired honor, in triall whereof so many had fayled heretofore. Yet herein his high opinion was beguiled, for he must yeld and giue place to those whome the fates had especially appointed, to wit, his owne Sonne, the Prince Florano of *England*, and the faithfull Lady Pamphila of *Greece*, his wife, as in their historie at large it is discoursed. For this cause, that the chiefe honor might remayne to him beyond all the other, he caused Broantine and Liboran to begin the triall first, then the Prince Zorian followed: yet all of them so tenderly fauoured, as they could not attaine to any shew of possibilitie. Which when Landastines and Mantelco beheld, the desire of glorie they had before, made them now of so high and resolute courage, as impatient of delay, they would not tarie for each other, attempting their fortune together: but this unkindly heate caught such a sudden cooling, as their timoritic grew insupportable, whereby the Images turned their backs to them. When they here
at

at offended, said: that the vertue of loue (in this triall) had not his due, therefore they ought not to be any way disabled. As for this peece of Witchcraft, quoth they, here beawtie is preferred before loyaltie: therefore it must consequently followe, that he and she who should despoile these Images, must be the most faire and loyall of all louers. So such as had not exquisite beawtie, and loyaltie to be teamed incomparable: were repulsed thence with such discontent, as the open soyle was more greuous then death to them. Palladine hereat thoroughly moued, yet more reioycing at anothers fault, then distrusting his owne sufficiencie: aduanced himselfe, and proffering his owne hand to the Torche, and the other to the Bolwe, the Images (making obeysance, and shewing amiable countenance to him) mounted vpon high from him, which caused such a laughter among the Ladies, as if they had scene a spectacle of greatest meriment. Erinnel Duchesse of *Rimondria*, and wife to Liboran, with Doronea wife to Broantine, newly created Duke of *Bastanella*, in their triall, the Images turned their backs to them: Graciana, Marcelina, and Florea had but little more credit, sauing that the Images moued not from them.

But now came Nonparelia to her turne, and her behaviour procured a generall contentment: so Venus let her touch the Torche, and set the Crowne on her shoulder, but toke it back againe immediatly: thereby prefiguring, that she being, had now lost her libertie.

When they sawe the aduenture could not be ended, the Ladies betooke them to their scaffolds, and the Knightes entred the Lystes, to make better proofe of their fortune by Chitallie. Landastines, accompanied with Broantine, Multiell of *Rosbeck*, Brunifort his brother, and Orliuan of *Flawnders*, with an hundred Knightes more first entred the field.

On the other side came the Prince Zorian, with Liboran, Durandell of *Cleue*, Grinday of *Oryen*, and Sedonis of

The pleasant riddle

Suffolke, with an hundred braue and couragious Knights : who at the sound of the Trompets, encountred each other with meruailous valour. Landastines and Zorian Iousted together, being of such equall strength and hardy courage, as the victorie could be gained on neither side : to cut off which controuersie, a new assaiant entred the Lystes, bearing in his shield a golden Phoenix, and vpon his Armour a coate of Crimosin Tielnet, whereon, these two letters SS were verie thick imboidered in Gold and Pearle, the sight of this Gallant gaue cause of admiration, and matter of balew was expected to come from him.

CHAP. XLI

¶ Who was the new Knight of the Phoenix, and of a Letter the Prince *Palladine* receyued, concerning his fyrst loue.

Rason requireth, that this new assaiant should be knowne, and the cause of his comming, least otherwise you should misconceiue of the matter, and so be deprived of the delight promised thereby. Know you then, that the Knight of the Phoenix was the Prince *Cæsar*, Sonne to *Othon* the Emperour of *Roome* then reigning, and husband to the faire *Rosamond* of *France*, who hearing of the honorable Triumph at the marriage of the Prince *Palladine*, and the aduenture of the Statues before the Court at *London* : traualled thither, to win the conquest of the one, and credit of the other, that at his returne to his best beloued, he might obtaine the greater grace and fauour.

Cæsar being thus entred the Lystes, and noting the braue chivalrie betwen by the Princes, stood still a good while,

while, till he sawe both the sides make offer of departure. But fearing to be reproued for his long stay, as though by cowardise he durst not trie his fortune, he first encountred one of the Prince Zorians Knights, and threw him to the ground with his heeles backward. Seauen or eight more of them he served in the like sort, till Landastines would needs deale with this Champion: but Cesar met him with such violence, as both horse and man was sent to the ground.

The Prince of Norgalles desirous to reuenge this shame, called for a fresh Horse and a Launce: and calling his enemy to Joust againe, as he made proffer to begin his carire, the Prince Cesar thus spake to him.

Good Sir be not offended with him, who hath saluted you with a courtesie common among knightes errant: but enduring the same with patience, giue the like to such as hazard them selues against you.

I feele no taste of courtesie, quoth Landastines, in such greetings, and thou mayst happen to confesse the same with him thou next assaylest, notwithstanding all thy brauerie in speeches. By proffe, said Cesar, I shall be made perfect, a fierce assaylant shall be assured of a brave defence. So breaking off this contention, he gaue the spurs to his horse against Zorian, giuing him such a rough charge at the encounter, as he was cast quite out of his saddle.

At this sight were Palladine and Manteleo greatly displeased, whom the King (for the earnest loue he bare them) would not permit to beare Armes in this Tourney, but caused them to accompanie their Ladies on the Scaffold; and to giue iudgement who best deserued: they (as I said) moued with the behaviour of the knight of the Phenix, came to the King with great reuerence, Palladine deliuering these speeches.

My Lord, the reuerence and dutie that children owe to their Parents, hath made vs remaine idle among these

Ladies, during the honest exercise of our friends and companions, esteeming to contradict your commaund, were an offence more then presumptuous. But now are our desires so stirred and prouoked, as we can no longer containe our selues in slothfulnes, but are enforced humbly to intreat, that your highnesse would giue vs leave to Arme our selues, onely to teach this newtome Gallant, who thinks alreadye he hath made a conquest, that in *England* are Knights, sprung from the race of the chiefe of the round Table, who are not to be feared with sixing thyre; or foure men unhorsed.

My Sonne, quoth the King, my commaund was to no other end, then to withhold ye from the thing you haue now desired, because assayed new Combates without Armes, you should not be endangered by two trials together, considering how the one may be a hinderance to the other: and so doubtlesse would it come to passe at this instant, were I not fully perswaded, that hono; neuer breakes compaignie with true loue, but more; and more aduanceth his titles, to the great encouragement of all noble mindes. Therefore my Sonnes, doe what you please, I will not hinder ye: go in Gods name, and returne with the full of my desire.

Having thus obtained what they would, they departed to their lodgings, returning some armed and well mounted, and passing by the Scaffold, Palladine intreated his Nonparelia, to giue him one of her Bracelets, wherewith he might enter the Toust vnder her fauour. In which time, Mantelco went to trie his fortune with the Sonne of Otho, and many Launces were broken betwixt them, yet neither able to dismount the other. Wherewith Mantelco being angry, and seeking policie to preuaile against his foe: Lord Caesar lifting vp the beuer of his helmet, imagining by the rich armes of Mantelco, that he was the Prince of *England*, with courteous reuerence to him, thus spake.

of Palladine of England. 88

Sir Palladine, perceiuing that you knowe me not, nor the cause of my comming into this Countrey, and seeing you would proceed to the Combate: the loue I beare ye, constraineth me willingly to discouer my selfe, beside, verie loth am I to lose the credit I haue wonne alreadie, and so prouoke you to displeasure against me. I am your friend Cesar, Sonne to the Emperour, as readie to be commaunded by you, as any other of your knights in *England*. Of this peare was Manteco not a little glad, yet haunchly dissembling the matter, he thus answered.

Lord Cesar, I am not the man you take me for, but in respect of this exceeding gentleness, and the reuerent dutie I owe beside: I will proceed no further, but heere giue over all cause of quarrell. And that your desire may be the more satisfied, I will bring ye to the man you imagined me to be, and likewise you shall knowe, with whom you haue now twise dealt without aduantage. My name is Manteco, Sonne to the Duke of *Mullayne*, and Brother by marriage to the Prince Palladine of *England*. But the accustomed humours among new married folkes, had charmed Palladine in such sort, as he sawe not when Manteco thus ventured before him: yet afterward, seeing two enemies so lovingly embrace, he meruailed who the Knight of the Phoenix should be, at length these two pacesped came toward the Prince, and in offering to salute him, this cause of stay hindered them.

While Palladine was fastening his Ladies Bracelet about his arme, a Squire came before him, who on his knees presented him a Letter, saying. Woe; this Lord my Lady and Mistresse the Duchesse of the rich Isles, whome you verie well knowe, commending her selfe to your good grace, hath sent you this Letter: desiring as the latest good you will doe her, to aunswere the same with all conuenient speed.

This message, chosely the verie last words, amazed the Prince, and being assailed with diuers imaginations,

The plealant Hiltorie

he brake open the Seale, and opening the Letter, read there these lincs following.

*The Letter from Brisfalda, Dutchesse of the rich Islands,
to Palladine the Prince of England.*

AT what time (my Lord) I was so happie, as to see you here in the rich Islands, I thought assuredly my god hap had taken such effect, as death it selfe could no way bring to end. Not so much in knowing my selfe to be your beloued, as to remember that my first frend was the Sonne of a King, whose good partes I engraued so huely in my hart, as none but he was made Lord therof: referring to my selfe this onely regard, that lone had made me no more yours, then dutie had confirmed you mine. Considering herewithall, that as a gadge of my good will, you being surprized with some part of my graces, and passionate beyond measure (as your selfe sayd) if my liking did not consozt with yours: I gaue you that remedie for your sickness, which a Lady of such calling as I am, would not haue bestowed on the greatest Prince in the world. Notwithstanding, our desires had then such a Sunpatie of affection, as in all matters we were alike, hauing each others honor in equall commendation, our nobilitie, parentage, and what else beside, combined together in a rich procall knot. But so it is come to passe, that of our first sight, affection, and familiaritie, such a testimonie remaineth, as may not be forgotten: for since your unkind departure, leauing me in a labozinth of endlesse grief, I am deliuered of a Sonne begotten by you, whom I haue named Vnyon, now aged twentie monethes, who bearing the perfect image of his fathers graces, is the onely comfort his sorrowfull mother hath. And herein you may beleue me, that an hundred times he hath preserved my life, hauing so weightie a burthen at my hart, as is the small account you haue made of me since your departure, and the wrong
you

you doe mee in racing mee forth of your remembrance, not
boughtling once to acquaint mee with the cause thereof.
Wherein is my hap so hard and regrettable, as death were
more welcome to mee then life: to allwage which insup-
portable burthen, I haue no comfort but your little
Sonne, whome hourly I hold in mine armes, merruailing
so swete a babe should haue so sowre a father. Yet being
thus cast off and disdained, the sorrow can not be so irke-
some to me, as the blame would to you, were your dis-
courtesie openly knowne: but such is my loue to you, that
my nature banquished, none but your selfe shall knowe
how you haue wronged me, nor further reuenge will I
seek, then with mine owne death to burye your shame.
What would your new loue Nonparelia say, if she knew
my bed abused by her husband, and she wife to him, who
by flesh and blood is married to mee: she being the second,
might well thinke the first to be hardly intrated. But let
not any doubt hereof offend you, for from her will I safely
conceale it: not in respect of any loue to her, but by re-
maining evermore

Your faithfull and immoueable friend
Brissilla, Duchesse of the rich Islands.

After he had read the Letter, he was stricken into such
adumpe, and oppressed with such remorse of conscience,
as scantly could he endure from falling beside his horse:
the best meane to preuent the same, was the arriual of
Cesar and Mantecio, which made him quickly change his
countenance, when the Emperours Sonne thus spake to
him.

Sir Palladine, the courtesie shewen me by the Prince
of Mullome your Brother, hath deliuered me from great
trouble, enforcing me to forbear armes, to entertaine
him in stead of your selfe. The happie Bridegroome are
you to faire Nonparelia, whose praises soare aboue the
Eagle in height: nor can I forget your famous chivalrie,

A. J.

perfour-

The plealant Historie

perfourmed in defence of her portrait, when you conquered in *France* the proud Zarcanel, her untow; this seruant that brought her figure thether.

I can not denie my Lord, answered Palladine, but the representation of my Ladies beawtie, hath made me conquerour in diuers slender enterprises, won from such as had no abilitie to keepe them, wherein if I haue deserued any repute, as friends are easily intreated to commend one another; farre inferiour are they to the faire Rosamonde, and those aduentures that noble Cesar hath accomplished for her.

I see well my Lord, quoth Cesar, that you will binde me to you in such sort, as I shall haue no meane to compass the least part of gratification: but let vs end this needlesse talke, and goe see the rare creature, whose vertues hath allured hither so many hyane Gallants. So walked they to the Pallace, where the King entertained Cesar verie royally, and all the Ladies with exceeding courtisie, Landastines and Zorian doing the lyke, nothing ashamed that the Emperours Sonne had the honoz of the Tourney.

CHAP.

CHAP. XLII.

¶ What answere *Palladine* sent to the Duchesse *Brisalda*, and how *Cesar* returned to his faire *Rosamonde*, *Londastines*, and *Manteleo* likewise into their countreys; and of the birth of *Florano* the Prince of England, Sonne to *Palladine* and *Nonparelia*.



Cesar being thus welcommed in the Court of England, both by the Lords and Ladies, especially *Nonparelia*: *Palladine* feigning to goe warme himselfe, took the messenger from the Duchesse *Brisalda* with him, saying. My friend, you must needs haue a little patience, and according to your Ladies request, presently you shall haue a briefe answere from me. Then calling for inke and paper, he went alone into the Wardrobe, because he would not be suspected by any, and answered the Letter in this sort.

*The Letter from Palladine, to the Duchesse
Brisalda.*

MADAME, matters hauing so strangely passed hitherto, yet without any cause of offence, you haue had some occasion to complaine, being ignorant of my hinderance in trauaile: but when you shall vnderstand, who hath bene the cause of all the honors obtained by *Palladine*, you will alter your conceit of displeasure toward me. I desire ye to comfort your selfe, with the sight of our little *Domme Vnyon*: of whose welfare I am no lesse glad, then were I Lord of all the *Oreade*. Your bed hath not bene abused, hauing thereby giued so faire a flower, and well may you
Aa. y, thus

o2 . The plealant Hutorie

thus vaunt of your Palladine, that he is vowed to his
 Sonnes god so: tune, maugre the crueltie of the greatest
 Tirant in the world. And albeit I haue espoused Nonpa-
 relia, she must remaine as my wife, without diminishing
 any part of the god will, wherein I am indebted to Br-
 falda of the rich Islands.

Your freend for euer,

Palladine.

Having sealed this Letter with his Seale of Armes,
 and bound about it a little golden Chaine, wherent he
 fastened a costly Diamond: he deliuered it to the messen-
 ger, saying. My friend, deliuer this from me to thy noble
 mistresse, with my continuall dutie to her god grace, de-
 siring her to kepe this Jewell so; my sake, in that it is the
 choicest I make account of. As for your paines, this Chaine
 of gold from mine owne neck I giue pe, and let it serue as
 part of a recompence toward your trauaile. Thus is the
 messenger returned to the Duchesse, who hauing read the
 Letter from Palladine, qualished her sorowes by good per-
 swasions, and afterward married with the Prince Alban of
 Ireland. Now commeth Palladine into the great Hall, and
 there renewed his former communication with Caesar,
 and the euening being spent in Pastimes and beaue deuises,
 onely to hono: the Emperours Sonne, at length they all
 betake themselves to their Chambers.

On the morrow, Caesar came to the Ladies, desiring
 them to see him trie his fortune at the Statues, which he
 perswading himselfe able to smite, was disappointed with
 a shamefull repulse, the griefe whereof so offended him, as
 that day he secretly departed from the Court, not bidding
 the King or any one adieu. The day following, as Palla-
 dine was walking in the Garden with the King, he entred
 into these speeches.

My gracious Lord and Father, hauing granted me
 to marrie with the Lady, whose vertuous qualities deser-
 ued

OF FALLACINE OF ENGLAND.

ned a much better husband, I greatly doubt, least the King her Father, being ignorant of our former contract, will finde himselfe so agrieved hereat, that he will seeke revenge as Kings are wont to doe, which in plainer termes, is by the Sword. To prevent the danger imminent in this case, our friend Lydiseo being now King of *Hungaria*, through whose Dominions he must needs passe: I thinke it not amisse to aduertise him hereof, that he may there offer resistance, while we provide here our men and munition in readinesse. Hereto may my Brethren of *Norgalles* and *Millayne* be availing likewise, wherefore with their Wives they intend to returne home into their countreys, and they being our faithfull allyed friends, will there likewise haue their subiects in readinesse, to giue vs succour if neede shall require.

By Some, answered the King, seeing the marriage is accomplished, it is too late to be blamed, or now to vse speeches in this behalfe, which are but frivolous and unprofitable. I pray thee therefore, reserve to thy children (if thou happen to haue any) a future peace, without any cause of warre or molestation: and well hast thou aduised vs, as concerning our beloued Brother the King of *Hungaria*, to whome within these ten dayes, I will send mine Ambassadour. Meane while, our Sonnes of *Norgalles*, and *Millayne*, shall haue all things readie to depart when they please, as loth to hinder their good determination, or any thing that may be for thy quiet and suretie. Some other matters were that day dispatched in Councell, all of as great importance as this, which I will passe over with silence, because the secrets of Kings are not to be made common.

The Ambassadour for *Hungaria* being dispatched, conducted Mantelco and his Lady to *Millayne*, where he left this married couple so combed with promise for warre, as they not forgetting any part of their amorous desires, ere ten monethes were past, Marcelina was deliuered

The pleasant historie.

of a goodly Sonne, named Hector of *Milmyne*, imitating his Father in deedes of chivalrie, yet being the first of that name that euer won honoꝛ in the field.

If Mantelen was welcomed with great ioy by his father and his Subiects, Landastines was not inferiour to him when he entred *Norgalles*, where the old King Harion his Father worthely entertained him, being so glad of his good fortune, as hauing embraced and kissed the Princeesse Florea, the teares tricked downe his white beard with inward conceite of ioy. Ah my Sonne, quoth he, how much are we bound to thanke the God of heauen, for this especiall signe of his grace and fauour: how am I and mine likewise continually to reioice, that our tribute to the Crowne of *England* is thus freely forgiven vs: in happie houre was this marriage concluded, that not onely bringeth a continuall league of peace, but disburdeneth vs of a payment trouble some to our whole countrey. Now dare no enemye vex vs with warre, seeing we haue the King of *England* our friend: wherefoze my Sonne, for bringing this comfort to thy fathers hart, whose age makes him now unfit to gouerne any longer: here I deliuer the Crowne into thy hands, not doubting but thou wilt rule as thy father hath done before thee. Landastines being thus honoꝛed, and put into þe full possession of the Crowne of *Norgalles*, some after made the King his father a Graundfire, by the birth of Don Celidon his Sonne, to the no little ioy of all his Subiects. The like good hap had the Prince Palladine, to honoꝛ the aged King Milanor withall: Nonparelia being deliuered of the yong Prince Elerand, at whose birth were many good fortunes prognosticated, for which, the Citizens of *London* in signe of their reioycing, caused bonfires to be made in the streets, and the Belles were rung day and night during the space of a sennighte.

All things being come to so good effect, and the married Louers in their owne Countreys, the wise Orbicoste would

of Palladine of England.

would now likewise take her leave: for a mightie Griffin as red as blood, came flying from the aire into the Pallace, which she laying hold upon, came befoze the King Milanor and the Duane, and to Palladine framed her speeches in this manner.

My noble Aspheue, I beseech ye as you loue your honoꝝ and renowne, and are desirous to make it immoꝝtall, that you will cause your young Sonne to be carefully nourished: assuring you, that his deedes shall be coꝝrespondent to his name, flourishing aboue all the knightes of his time, he bring the onely flower that euer grew in *England*. And not onely shall he be famous foꝝ deedes of Armes and Chivalrie, but vertue and loyaltie he shall haue in such commendation, as no Lady in the woꝝld shall be found woꝝthie of his loue, but Pamphilia Daughter to the Emperour of *Greece*, as yet vnboꝝne. Florano shall loue loyally this Lady. In his loue he shall be so secret, sure, and well aduised, and she like to him in all these gifts: as though the woꝝld they may not be equalled. To him and her, are the aduentures of the statues reserved, let none therefore seek befoꝝe that time to obtaine them. And now will I to *Aquilea*, to confirme your peace with the King my Brother, and lay downe oꝝder foꝝ his reuolt to Chꝝtianitie. Her speeches thus ended, and friendly embracings passed on all sides: she cast her selfe on the Griffons back, and mounting into the aire, left *England*, and is gone toward *Aquilea*. With this meruailous accident we meane to pause, and here conclude

our long labour, according to the appointment of Polismar and Palnocid, ancient Historiographers of worthy memory, who first deliuered this Poem in the British tongue.

FINIS.

To the Gentlemen Readers.



Errt did Claudius Collet of Cham-
paigne, who wrote this Worke in the
French tongue, make a full conclusion of
the Historie: and I having no further
scope, but bound to follow the direction
of mine Author, heere doe I likewise
knit up the famous discourse of Prince
Palladine. What errors have past in
my simple translation, I must commit
to the frendly iudgement of such, as knowe that the worst may
step awry, and he was neuer yet heard of that pleased such a
mour. My good Will is greater then my abilitie, and when a man
doth bestowe his endenour, onely to delight and not to please: it is
courtesie to entertaine such a ones labours frendly, considering
the recompence is small for a tedious trauaile. The history of Pal-
mendes and Primaleon, promised in my two partes of Palme-
rin d'Oliva, as leysiers will permit shall be perfected: in meane
while (for Countreys sake) bid Palladine welcome, which the
French haue published in the honor of England.

Honos alit Artes.

Your well wishing friend
Anthony Munday.

Diuers foule faulkes are escaped in the imprinting, in some pla-
ces words mistaken, as rich procall for riciprocall in Bri-
saldaes Letter to Palladine, and diuers other by oversight left out,
and partly by want of my attendance to reade the proofes, beeing
called away by matters of greater importance, and whereto I am
bound by dutie of mine office: therefore as forchappen to finde
them, and are able to conceiue what in truth they should be, let me
intreate you frendly to correct them, because I am loth to trouble
you with a gathered Errata.

